Stourbridge
CHRONICLE
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HEARTACHE AS MEDALS STOLEN

Report by Richard Guttridge

"THEY are the few items she has got that were her father's."

The words of Karen Cotterill, whose 94-year-old mother has been left heartbroken after two First World War medals, which were awarded to her father, were stolen during a raid on her home in Stourbridge.

The great-grandmother was left devastated after burglars took the medals, which hung in a frame in her dining room. They even took the soldier's photograph.

Her father Arthur Hogbin died when she was just two-years-old, so the medals were very special to her. Her daughter Karen Cotterill said: "She was shaken, upset and angry. She has got no memories of him. The photo and the medals were pride of place.

Arthur Hogbin

"We're all really upset. How can people take medals? They are probably worth about 30 quid. You can get replacements but it wouldn't be the same."

A pocket watch, carried by Mr Hogbin during the war, was also stolen along with an 18ct gold ruby and diamond engagement ring and a watch, which was a birthday present from her late husband.

Sad

Mrs Cotterill, 62, has now called on whoever stole them to return them.

She said: "I want them for mum's peace of mind, if they could leave them somewhere, anywhere they could be found. They are the few items she has got that were her father's. For them to be stolen is very sad."

Mr Hogbin was awarded the British War Medal and Allied Victory Medal in recognition of his service during the First World War. He was a volunteer who served in Greece with The Royal East Kent Regiment and later lived in Smethwick and worked at Rolfe Street Baths.

His daughter arrived home on November 3 to find she had been burgled and the precious medals taken – just a week before Remembrance Day.

Police have launched an investigation and call on anyone with information to contact them on 101. Pc Drew Turner said: "We are determined to get these items back to the owner. The medals are of great sentimental value. She is desperate to have them returned."

● Remembrance Day pictures – page 8

ALL STARS VS ROBINS IN MAYOR'S CHARITY MATCH

Wolves All Stars chairman Mel Eves, Mayor of Dudley Councillor Mohammed Hanif and Dudley Town FC chairman Stephen Austin

THE Mayor of Dudley is urging football fans to turn out for a charity match which will see Dudley Town take on Wolves All-Stars.

It will be hosted by the Mayor Councillor Mohammed Hanif who will be donning his football boots to join with the action on the pitch.

The match will kick-off at 2.30pm on Sunday, November 27, at The Dell Stadium in Bryce Road, Brierley Hill.

Proceeds from the day will be split between the Mayor's nominated charities, which are Diabetes UK Dudley Group, Dudley CIL and Friends of Alfie Johnson, as well as Dudley Town Football Club's own nominated charity, The Black Country Fibromyalgia Support Group.

Chairman of Wolves All Stars Mel Eves said he hoped people would turn out to show their support.

"This is a chance for former players to give something back to community to thank those people who turned out to see them play.

"We are all looking forward to it and it's all for a good cause so we hope as many people can come as possible," he added.

Councillor Hanif said: "I would like to thank Dudley Town FC for organising this match. It is very much appreciated and I hope we can raise lots of money for such worthy causes. I would encourage people to come along and have a great afternoon of entertainment."

Tickets cost £5 for adults and £3 for under-16s and seniors. Children under 10 go free. Tickets can be reserved by calling Steve Edwards 07858 876649 and collected from The Black Country T-Shirt Shop, Castle Street, Dudley or Pure Gym, Brierley Hill.

CRIME

£2,000 reward in hunt for suspect

A £2,000 reward has been offered to catch the prime suspect in the murder of 24-year-old Mansoor Mahmood in Brierley Hill.

A manhunt was launched after Mr Mahmood was stabbed. Niron Parker-Lee, 19, has been named as the prime suspect and the public has been warned that he is dangerous. Mr Mahmood was knifed at 4.45pm in High Street on October 15.

Charity Crimestoppers is offering the reward for information that leads to a conviction. Contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

● Inquest opens – page 2

SHOPPING

New car park opens for Christmas rush

A NEW Dudley town centre pay-and-display car park has opened ahead of the Christmas rush.

The car park, which has 90 spaces and prices starting from 70p, has been created in Tower Street, on the site of the former Mahoe banqueting suite.

Regeneration boss Councillor Khurshid Ahmed said: "The new Tower Street car park is in a great central location for people visiting the town and we're really pleased that we have been able to open it earlier than planned."

HOUSING

Football hero's home goes on the market

THE house where Dudley football legend Duncan Edwards lived as a boy has been put up for sale.

The terraced property in Elm Road, on the town's Priory estate, has an asking price of £120,000.

England and Manchester United star Edwards spent the early part of his life at the house and would play football just a short distance away at Priory Park.

He was best known as one of the famous 'Busby Babes' Manchester United team, before he died of injuries sustained in the Munich air disaster in 1958

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DANNY'S SECRET IS NOT SO DYER

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Inquest opens into stabbing death

Victim – Mansoor Mahmood

AN INQUEST has opened into a man who was stabbed to death in Brierley Hill.

Mansoor Mahmood, of Bague Walk, Brierley Hill, died in hospital after he staggered bleeding into a shop on Brierley Hill High Street just before 5pm on October 15.

An inquest in Oldbury heard the 24-year-old married man was a carer for his wife, Aisha Akhtar.

Police last week revealed their prime suspect as 19-year-old Niron Parker-Lee. The charity Crimestoppers is now offering a reward of up to £2,000 for information that leads to Parker-Lee's arrest.

Senior Coroner's Officer Joanne Stokes told the inquest a provisional cause of death had been given as a stab wound to Mr Mahmood's chest. A murder investigation is ongoing.

She added that there were a number of witnesses still to be seen and a second post-mortem had been carried out.

Coroner Zafar Siddique adjourned the inquest until December 19.

Any sightings of suspect Parker-Lee should be reported to police immediately on 999. The public are warned not to approach Parker-Lee.

Suspect – Niron Parker-Lee

Big Sam will not face a police investigation

DUDLEY-BORN former England boss Sam Allardyce will not be the focus of a criminal investigation into allegations of corruption in football.

Allardyce resigned as England manager following a sting operation by the Daily Telegraph in September, in which he was secretly filmed allegedly offering advice on how to circumvent rules on signing players.

The City of London Police have launched a criminal investigation into material gathered by the newspaper but say no arrests have yet been made.

A spokesman for the force's Economic Crime Directorate confirmed Allardyce was not part of the investigation.

The 62-year-old, who was born on the Old Park Farm estate and grew up a Wolves fan, said in a statement: "I welcome the confirmation that has come from City of London Police that I will not be the subject of a police investigation.

Confident

"I was always confident that this would be the case as there was no evidence against me."

He added: "I would like to thank my friends and family who have stood by me during this difficult period. "The position of England head coach is the pinnacle of any English manager's career and it was my dream job.

"While I am sad that my tenure came to an end early, I am nonetheless proud to have been chosen to manage the England football team and hope that today's confirmation from the police will give me the opportunity to move on."

Allardyce had always strongly denied any wrongdoing but the controversy surrounding the newspaper sting, and some other indiscreet remarks that were caught by the undercover reporters on a hidden camera, cost him his job with the national team after just 67 days.

The Telegraph's investigation also resulted in Barnsley's assistant manager Tommy Wright being sacked by the Championship club after he was filmed accepting a £5,000 payment to apparently help the fake investment firm place players at the club.

Expect the unexpected from Mayhem

Stephen Moran, of Halesowen, has written plays with a twist inspired by Roald Dahl's Tales of the Unexpected

MAYHEM Theatre Company will be performing three plays in the style of Roald Dahl's Tales of the Unexpected, which were a series of short stories broadcast on TV in the 1980s.

The one-act plays, which will be performed at Thorns Community College in Quarry Bank this month, are entitled Sandlewood Mouse, Future Past and The Monkey's Paw

Optician Stephen Moran, from Halesowen, wrote both Sandlewood Mouse and Future Past and will be performing in the third play too.

"The plays are suitable for all the family, quite literally any age," said Mr Moran.

"In the Sandlewood Mouse a couple are selling a wooden mouse at auction. But the plot has an unexpected twist."

"Future Past I wrote about six years ago. A man goes to bed and dies, then he is born as a small kid growing up in the future in another country."

The plays will be performed at the Hardwicke Theatre at Thorns Community College, on Stockwell Avenue, from tonight (Thursday) until Saturday, 7.30pm nightly.

Tickets cost £7 and can be bought by calling 0121 559 6549.

The theatre group consists of around 25 members, of all ages.

"We are always on the lookout for new members - both acting and those helping out," said Stephen.

"We are particularly short of female members."

Himley Hall park's dog ban is now permanent

A DOG ban covering around a fifth of Himley Park is to be made permanent.

Dudley Council faced a backlash from angry dog walkers over a decision to create a dog-free zone on a section of the popular site.

However, following a consultation, council bosses said 78 per cent of 251 people surveyed had backed the move and so the dog ban would stay for good.

The authority said the ban was brought into to create an area for families to enjoy themselves in an area free from dogs. That ban, which has been in place since February, covers the park's main entrance to the West Gate, running alongside the Himley Road. It covers around a fifth of the park. The rest of the park is still available to walk dogs.

But the changes have rankled with dog owners, many who have walked their pets on the park for years, and they demanded the ban be scrapped.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, planning and economic development boss, said: "We were prompted to introduce this dog free area in response to requests from park users who told us they felt uncomfortable bringing their families to the park because of concerns over dogs.

"The dog free area provides all visitors to Himley Hall and Park the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful park and its surroundings at their leisure in an area they feel comfortable.

"The survey results have made it quite clear that a majority of people are in favour of the scheme and want the zone to be a permanent feature of the park."

Tonnes of steel crush man's legs

A MAN suffered serious injuries after becoming trapped under several tons of steel on the back of a lorry in Dudley.

The victim's legs were crushed at an industrial premises on Deepdale Lane, Lower Gornal, at 1.45pm on Thursday.

Fire crews used specialist lifting equipment to free the man, who is in his 30s, and he was then taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

The air ambulance landed nearby but medics decided to take the man to hospital by road.

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokeswoman Claire Brown said: "The man had sustained serious crush injuries to his legs and required advanced trauma care by ambulance staff and the doctor on scene to help treat and stabilise his condition."

Woman dies in Kingswinford fire

AN ELDERLY woman died in a house fire in Kingswinford on Monday. She was named locally as Edith Williams. Emergency services were called to Catesby Drive just before 11.30pm. Police said the woman's death was not being treated as suspicious.

Homes and shops plan hits snag on brick firm

PROPOSALS for a major housing and shops development have been delayed after concerns were raised because it's near to a 200-year-old brickworks.

The outline application for up to 200 homes, shops, a gym and restaurants off Stalling's Lane in Kingswinford, had been recommended for approval by Dudley Council's development control committee. But fears that noise from existing business would result in complaints from the new residents has led to the decision being deferred for a site visit.

The proposed development land is on the site of Ibstock Brick Ltd, and also close to Pensnett Trading Estate.

Brick and tile firm Hinton Perry & Davenhill, is near to the site earmarked for homes.

Managing director Alex Patrick-Smith highlighted that Hinton Perry & Davenhill has been in existence there since 1805. "We don't want our business in the future to cause complaints," he said.

In a bid to alleviate potential issues over noise, it had been proposed that a 10 metre noise buffer been installed between Tansey Green Road and Stallings Lane.

This was not enough to quash the concerns of committee member Councillor David Stanley, who said: "Hinton Perry & Davenhill have been there for 211 years. It is something we should be proud to have in our borough, and I'm not prepared to risk the future of this company by putting houses around it."

Vans are taken to steal copper

BURGLARS used two stolen Dudley Council vans to steal copper from a factory in Kingswinford.

West Midlands Police said its was investigating following the break-in at Clamason Industries.

It took place at the metal manufacturers in Gibbons Industrial Park, Gibbons Lane, overnight between Thursday and Friday.

A force spokesman said: "Offenders have gained access to Clamason Industries and while inside have used a fork-lift truck to remove copper coils.

"They then forced open a secure gate using the truck and loaded the coils on to two transit vans stolen from nearby premises."

The spokesman said the vans had Dudley Council livery on them.

Travel award for living museum

THE Black Country Living Museum was among winners in the first School Travel Awards. It was announced as best museum visit at the ceremony at the Royal Garden Hotel in London, hosted by TV presenter Fiona Bruce.

Last bank in Lye High Street is closing

Closing down – Lloyds branch in Lye

A BLACK Country town's High Street will be left without a bank after Lloyds announced it would be axing a branch early next year.

Shoppers in Lye have seen banks disappear in recent years and will be facing a trip to Stourbridge if they want to go into a branch.

Concerns have been raised about the lack of access to banks in Lye and the inconvenience customers will face if they need to speak to someone face-to-face about their finances.

People will still be able to access money from two cashpoints on the High Street but, from March when the branch closes, there will be no banks on Lye High Street.

It was revealed last week that the banking giant would be cutting 520 jobs as part of a three-year restructuring plan and it is to close 49 branches in 2017.

Bosses said the branch closures reflected 'changing customer needs' with a reduction in the number of people going into branches due to the rise of online banking.

But Abdul Qadus, a community leader in Lye, did not think it right that the High Street should be without a single branch.

Branches have gradually disappeared from the town's High Street. A former Midland Bank is now a pharmacy and an old Barclays branch was turned into a Co-op.

When Lloyds closes, shoppers from Lye will have to go to either Stourbridge, Halesowen or Merry Hill to visit a branch

Mr Qadus said: "Everything is being more centralised and people who live in smaller areas are being forgotten."

Parents back lollipop lady at school crossing

CAMPAIGNERS have stepped up their opposition to Dudley Council's plans to scrap school crossing patrols.

A petition with nearly 10,000 signatures was handed in to the council and a protest of lollipop wardens and concerned schools and parents was due to take place outside Dudley Council on Tuesday this week. The consultation period came to an end last Thursday.

Parents from Wollescote Primary School decided to join lollipop lady Kim Nicholls on the busy Brook Holloway at its junction of Wynall Lane to show their support.

Parent and former councillor Abdul Qadus, who is standing for re-election to the school's governing committee, said: "Traffic comes down this way very quickly. Brook Holloway, Ordnall Road and Careless Green are all very busy roads. The lady from highways said that they are putting children's safety as a priority but where in these plans is it a priority?"

Dudley Council currently funds the school crossing service but say reductions in funding from Government has prompted a review in bid to save £395,000. The council's proposals are for schools to instead fund the crossing sites which serve their pupils, while operation of the service would still be overseen by the local authority.

Funds

But Mr Qadus said that Wollescote Primary didn't have the funds to put this in place.

When the council's consultation with schools came to an end, only 26 out of 123 invited to take part had responded.

Schools were asked to rate options including ending the school crossing patrol completely; retaining a crossing patrol operated and managed by the council but costing schools an estimated £6,500 per crossing; or retaining a crossing patrol with staff who are directly employed and funded by schools with estimated fee of £1,500 payable to the council.

Of schools that responded, 76.9 per cent put ending the provision completely as their last choice. The results of the consultation will go to full council in March.

Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environmental services, last month said: I would remind people that it is a parent's or guardian's responsibility to ensure children arrive at school safely. The council does not have a statutory duty to provide the service. We will always take the safety of children very seriously. We have invested heavily in safer routes to schools which include fixed pedestrian crossing points."

Abdul Qadus with school crossing patrol warden Kim Nicholls, pupils and parents, at Brook Holloway

Drivers see red over traffic light chaos

TRAFFIC chaos at the busy Burnt Tree junction in Dudley is making motorists see red.

Drivers have been venting their anger over havoc at the junction on the Birmingham New Road after the signal controller for the traffic lights was damaged in a crash in the early hours of Wednesday last week.

Dudley Council says it could take two weeks to fix and temporary lights have been put in place. But many drivers have reported that the temporary lights aren't working properly and long queues have formed throughout the week.

Police were called out to the scene of the collision at the junction near Tesco Express at 2.30am on November 9.

Omari McCalla-Jones, aged 26, of Windmill Crescent, Smethwick, has been charged with failing to provide a specimen after the incident and is due to appear at Dudley magistrates' court on November 26.

Among the many despairing drivers taking to Twitter was Jack Malpass who said: "Avoid the Birmingham New Road."

National Express West Midlands made repeated updates on Twitter about bus delays.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mingle all the way on 5k Santa run

SANTAS are set to swap their big black boots for running shoes to raise cash for a Sedgley-based sight loss charity.

The Beacon Centre and Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) have joined forces to hold a Santa Run in West Park, Wolverhampton, on December 4. Participants can run, walk or jog around the 5km course, the only requirement is that they wear a Santa suit. The run takes place at 10.30am and £10 (£5 children for one lap) entry fee goes to the two charities. See www.beaconvision.org/Event/santa-run

Village pavilion could win funds

A PROJECT to create a new sports pavilion in a village near Stourbridge could get a further funding boost thanks to a supermarket campaign.

Hagley's village community project is in with a chance of winning £12,000 from Tesco's £12.5 million Bags of Help scheme, alongside Himley Cricket Club and Heronswood Primary School in Kidderminster.

Current dilapidated changing facilities on Hagley Playing Fields are set to be transformed after a grant for more than £20,000 from The Veolia Environmental Trust in September.

Mayor to attend Somme service

A COMMEMORATION service marking 100 years since the end of the Battle of the Somme will take place at Dudley Archives this weekend.

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Mohammed Hanif will attend the event on Saturday at the archives on Tipton Road. It has been organised by the Friends of the Dudley Archives and Local History Service.

The short service of remembrance will begin at 11am with two minutes' silence.

300 jobs for student paramedics available

AMBULANCE chiefs in the West Midlands have launched a major recruitment drive to hire 300 student paramedics.

A careers event has been organised by West Midlands Ambulance Service alongside Sandwell College and Jobcentre Plus in the search for budding paramedics.

This will take place at the college's Central Campus, on Spon Lane, West Bromwich, between 10am and 2pm on Saturday, November 26.

Church Christmas fair

ST Peter's Church hosts its annual Christmas fair later this month.

The theme is the 'Magic of Christmas' and takes place at the church on Kent Street in Upper Gornal on November 28 from 10:30am until 2:30pm. There will be lunches, other refreshments and lots of stalls.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

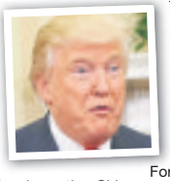
THE red remembrance poppy sold by the Royal British Legion has always been avoided by pacifists who prefer the white poppy of the Peace Pledge Union. The Legion's view, as explained on its website is: "We see no conflict in wearing the red poppy alongside the white poppy. We do ask that the items are not offered alongside each other however as this would confuse the public." So how odd that the Legion's online shop is selling not only the red poppy but also a white poppy.

MIND you, the Legion does some strange things with the hallowed poppy image. In its online shop you can buy a pet-food dish with alternating paw and poppy logos. Tacky does not begin to describe it.

A READER asks whether, in the great scheme of things, the US presidential elections and the poppy row with Fifa are more or less momentous than Toblerone re-designing its chocolate bar. We must let history be the judge.

THE most solid and, literally, concrete pledge of the Trump campaign was to build that wall on the Mexican border to keep illegal immigrants out. Yessir, it was gonna be wide and high – and Mexico would pay for it. Within a few hours of Trump's victory, his aides were advising us to think of it as a virtual, smart or metaphorical wall.

DONALD Trump's victory led to one of those hilarious pieces of pompous, self-regarding nonsense that make The Guardian such fun. Appealing for donations from the public, the newspaper implored: "Help us hold the new US president to account, sort fact from fiction, amplify under-represented voices." Damn right. Forget Isis, the Russians, the Chinese and home-grown terror. The one thing that Donald really dreads is a hissy column from Polly Toynbee.



AT any other time the deaths of seven passengers, with more than 50 others injured, would have been recognised as the national calamity it is. The Croydon tram disaster, overshadowed by the US election, is like a throwback to the days when rail crashes were common. After years of accident-free travel, has the system lowered its guard? It appears trams do not have the same speed-control system as trains. Why in heaven's name not?

PEOPLE tend to assume that those of us without mobiles are being awkward or trying to make some sort of Luddite point. Not at all. We just feel more comfortable not being part of the great global herd of heads-down phone slaves who spend every waking hour grazing on text messages. Go on, try it for a day.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Steaming ahead to major exhibition

THE Warley National Model Railway Exhibition takes place at Birmingham's NEC on November 26 and 27, and is the largest exhibition of its type anywhere in the UK.

Now in its 24th year, the exhibition occupies over 16,500 square feet in Hall 5 and will showcase more than 90 working model railway layouts. The exhibition will feature an exciting competition where the winner will be invited to a private viewing of Pete Waterman's fabulous home layout.

Opening hours are, Saturday, 9.45am to 6pm and Sunday, 9.45am to 5pm and the event will be a must for every enthusiast and it is a fantastic day out for the family.

The layouts are from gauges Z to 1 and bigger, and there is a full size centrepiece steam locomotive.

There are more than 150 specialist trade stands as well as representatives from preservation and specialist interest societies.

Music mogul and railway enthusiast Pete Waterman will be there and is planning to broadcast his Saturday lunchtime radio WM show live from the NEC.Admission prices, starting with advance tickets are: adult one day £13.50; adult two day £23.50; junior one day (Aged 5-16) £7.00; junior two day (aged 5-16) £12; family (two adults and three children) £36.

Admission prices on the door: adult one day £15; adult two day £26.50; junior one day (Aged 5-16) £8.50; junior two day (aged 5-16) £15; family £43.50.

For more information, visit the website: www.thewarleyshow.co.uk

Death came after pork scratching got lodged

By Judith Hawkins

A MAN from Tipton died after choking on a pork scratching, just three weeks after getting the all-clear from lung cancer, an inquest heard.

James Bell, known as Jim to his family and friends, collapsed after going shopping in Dudley, on October 26.

Black Country Coroner's Court in Oldbury heard how a piece of food had become lodged in Mr Bell's windpipe. This was believed to be one of the pork scratchings he had just bought from a butchers shop.

It caused the 75-year-old former chef to collapse near the Cousins furniture store, and hit his head. Paramedics attended and found him in cardiac arrest. He was taken to Russells Hall Hospital, but subsequently died. Senior coroner's officer Stephen Binsley said: "CCTV from the scene was looked at by police. He is seen grabbing his chest, falling and unfortunately banging his head."

Hospital

He continued: "There was an occlusion in the airway and they had to use some forceps to remove it. He also suffered from a head injury from the fall."

The coroner heard that Mr Bell had gone out shopping while his wife was busy doing housework, including a trip to the butchers.

He left their home on Monins Avenue at around 10am, but when he hadn't arrived back more than three hours later she called 101 to report him missing. Paramedics had attended at around 11.30am.

A post-mortem identified that Mr Bell died of a respirative obstruction by food. Coroner Mr Zafar Siddique concluded it was an accidental death. Mr Siddique said: "On the balance of probabilities he has eaten some pork scratchings and choked on the food."

Paying tribute to her husband, Alwyn Bell said: "He was the most easy-going bloke you could wish to meet. He was liked by everyone. A smashing guy."

The couple had been married for 53 years, having first met at a rock 'n' roll dance when they were both in the RAF. They wed at St Boniface Church in Quinton, and had two sons, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Mrs Bell said: "He was given the all clear he had beaten the cancer. We sat everyone down and told them, and I had never seen him cry before but he cried. We were looking forward to Christmas."

Pupils create sea of poppies display

With some of the ceramic poppies is student Jade Tompkins, aged 14, at The Wordsley School

CARING schoolchildren have been busy crafting handmade ceramic poppies in the run up to Remembrance Day.

Year eight pupils at the Wordsley School, Stourbridge, were inspired by the famous poppy installation at the Tower of London in 2014.

Students and teachers at the school have now created about 1,000 poppies.

Originally the school had planned to make 750 ceramic poppies to represent each pupil at Wordsley, but due to their hard work, the pupils managed to make even more.

Assistant headteacher Maggie Lambert said: "The poppies are rather wonderful and have caught the attention of so many people when they're walking up and down the school drive.

"The students loved making them too – it's not just about the enjoyment, but being part of something that is so beautiful and spectacular.

"I think the pupils feel most proud of the fact that they're part of something so wonderful and fitting.

"The gravity that you feel when you're at a remembrance service is captured in the installation we've made and I'm sure parents will agree."

Mrs Lambert added: "We believe we have created a truly inspirational tribute to the fallen which rightly honours their memory."

Staff came up with the idea of the installation after brainstorming new ways to commemorate Remembrance Day.

"Remembrance is such an important aspect of our school and we wanted to show it the respect it deserves," she said.

Art teacher Tony While came up with the idea of how to make the poppies, which are on both stems and wire, in order to make them look effective.

Pupils made the poppies from single balls of clay resulting in each individual poppy being unique.

The poppies are for sale with prices starting from £5 for the poppies with a stem or two for £3 for ones without. The poppies can be reserved and bought from the school office.

All of the money raised from the poppy sales will be donated to the Royal British Legion.

New smart cameras catch 4,000 M6 drivers

ALMOST 4,000 motorists were caught speeding along the M6 by cameras on the new smart motorway between Oldbury and the M54.

The figures show that 3,916 speeding fines were issued over the 2014/15 financial year and almost £200,000 in fines were dished out on the five-mile stretch of road between junction eight and 10a. Wolverhampton councillor Steve Evans said those motorists who speed through the zone risked the fines, adding 'that's the law'.

The cabinet member for city environment said: "There was a parliamentary review which showed the existing places where they have these systems in place work very well.

"When they are implemented in a safe way, using the laybys for breakdowns, there is no issue for me. Speed limits are speed limits."

Walsall councillor Lee Jevons, portfolio holder for transport at Walsall Council, said: "Highways England and our engineers are working together to reduce congestion along this route by carrying out major improvements to junction 10 of the M6.

"The £64.5 million project will see new, widened bridges being built over the motorway, improvements to the motorway slip roads, installation of intelligent traffic signals, widening and modernisation of the nearby Bloxwich Lane junction and modification to the Black Country Route."

During the same 2014/15 period, more than 50,000 fixed penalties were issued across the UK, compared to 2,023 in the same period in 2010/11.

Delays follow blaze at yard

PASSENGERS faced delays after a fire that started in a yard in Coseley spread to the railway embankment.

The fire took place at around 10.49am on Sunday November 6, in the yard of a commercial property on Bayer Street. The fire quickly spread to the nearby railway line, causing trains to travel at a reduced speed between Coseley and Tipton.

West Midlands Fire Service send one appliance and three firefighters to the blaze, which was put out just after noon. No-one was hurt in the fire and normal service resumed on the line shortly after the fire service left

Meanwhile, Midland Metro users faced delays to and from Birmingham as a car got stuck on the line.

The car became trapped on the line at Snow Hill Metro Station at around 10.15am on Sunday and it took three hours to remove.

The car had travelled around 100 metres down the line and trams travelling to and from Birmingham had to terminate at St Paul's while the crews were at work to clear it.

West Midlands Fire Service confirmed that they were called by British Transport Police to help remove the car, which was wedged along the line.

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Boy admits town centre knife attack on teenager

A 14-year-old boy has admitted stabbing an older teenager in the stomach during a confrontation in the centre of a Black Country town.

The defendant pleaded guilty to wounding the 18-year-old with intent in Sedgley High Street on October 9.

They boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, appeared before Wolverhampton Crown Court last week.

He further admitted having a knife.

Mr Stanley Reiz, defending, told the court that the 14-year-old had written a letter for the consideration of the court in which 'he apologises and acknowledges what he did'.

The boy was remanded in custody to allow a report to be prepared on him by the Youth Offending Service.

He is due to be sentenced on December 2 when full details of the case will be outlined to the court.

Judge John Wait told him: "You have pleaded guilty to very serious charges but you will have the maximum amount of credit for having entered the pleas at this early stage."

The victim, who suffered a single stab wound, was airlifted to hospital in a critical condition after the attack at around 6pm but it was later reported that he was recovering well.

The judge asked the prosecution to ensure there was a report on both the injury and its likely long term effects in time for the next hearing.

A 15-year-old youth who was also arrested in connection with the stabbing was later released without charge.

Man trapped between tractor and bales

Medics help after the farm accident

A 21-year-old man had to be airlifted to hospital after being trapped between an 8ft high bale of straw and a tractor, sustaining a leg injury.

The incident happened in a field off Sugar Loaf Lane, Iverley, near Stourbridge.

An air ambulance, other medics, firefighters and police all rushed to the scene, and were able to free the man whose leg was trapped underneath the large pile of hay.

He required treatment at the scene and was put on a stretcher and given pain relief before being flown to Queen Elizabeth Hospital after the accident at around 2.15pm on Thursday

A West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman said: "We can confirm that we were called to a field in Sugar Loaf Lane shortly after 2.15pm on Thursday.

Support

"An ambulance, a paramedic area support officer, the trust's Hazardous Area Response Team and the Midlands Air Ambulance from Cosford attended the scene.

"Ambulance staff arrived to find a man, believed to be in his 20s, whose leg was trapped underneath a bale of hay.

"Once freed, the man, who remained conscious throughout, was treated for a leg injury, immobilised and given pain relief before being airlifted to Queen Elizabeth Hospital."

The ambulance service shared several photos of the incident on Twitter, which showed emergency staff gathered around the towering bales of straw.

Three leisure centres could be replaced by two

DUDLEY'S three main leisure centres will close and be replaced with two new facilities, under proposals to save the borough council £1.7 million.

The plans involve leisure centres in Dudley, Stourbridge and Halesowen shutting down as council bosses say it would cost too much to repair them.

Instead, two state-of-the-art new centres with swimming pools, gyms and badminton courts, would be built in the borough.

The radical proposals form part of Dudley Council's aim to save £25m over the next three years.

Council chiefs will enter into discussions with staff but it is not yet known whether jobs will be cut.

Council leader Pete Lowe suggested a shake-up of leisure centres was on the cards during the announcement of the authority's budget proposals for 2017/18, when he said leisure provision needed to be suitable for the 21st century.

Now council bosses have decided to follow other parts of the Black Country, such as Wolverhampton and Sandwell, in building new leisure centres.

Slide

Dudley Leisure Centre, on Wellington Road; Halesowen Leisure Centre, on Great Cornbow; and the Crystal Leisure Centre, on Bell Street, Stourbridge, with its distinctive yellow slide, would all go under the proposals.

Bosses are believed to be looking at several sites across the borough for the new centres.

The buildings would not close until the two new ones have been built but it means at least one town will no longer have its own leisure centre.

Chiefs said the three centres were in desperate need of repair and were struggling to compete with modern facilities elsewhere. No timescale has been given for when the new centres will be built.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, Dudley's cabinet member for leisure, said: "These are exciting proposals being put forward and will totally transform how we deliver leisure facilities across the borough.

"Staff work had to keep our current stock of leisure centres going but they face an uphill struggle to compete against privately-run facilities and spiralling maintenance costs."

Zoo expert builds on success

Carlo Diponio is presented with the award by Downton Abbey writer Julian Fellows, Lord Lloyd Webber and Historic England chief executive Duncan Wilson

AN EXPERT at Dudley Zoo has received an award for his contribution to conserving British heritage in a scheme backed by theatre mogul Lord Lloyd Weber.

Carlo Diponio, construction supervisor at Dudley Zoo, was given the accolade because of his major contribution to restoring concrete Tecton buildings at the attraction.

The Tectons were designed by Russian-born architect Berthold Lubetkin and are considered a significant development in 20th century architecture.

Dudley Zoo has the world's largest single collection of Tecton buildings. All 12 are listed and in 2009 they were granted World Monuments Fund status, giving the same status as Machu Picchu and the Taj Mahal.

In 2014 Heritage Lottery Funding was granted to refurbish the structures, which include kiosks and enclosures.

Mr Diponio said: "It's an absolute pleasure to work on these buildings and hopefully it won't stop here.

"The more people that look at concrete buildings the way I did, the better."

They awards are funded by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation which promotes the arts, culture and heritage for the public benefit. Lord Lloyd Webber was among the judges.

Closure date for activity centre

A CLOSURE date has been announced for an activity centre for the over 50s in the Brierley Hill area.

The Age UK Springboard activity centre, based at The Waterfront, will close on December 22.

The centre provides services for up to 700 people. Activities include exercise classes, ballroom dancing, arts and crafts and photography.

But the base will cease to function after £300,000 of funding was cut by Dudley Council in July.

Devastated staff said they are 'concerned' for their huge client base who visit and benefit from the project.

The centre has 53 staff and more than 300 volunteers who run health and wellbeing activities for those aged over 50.

Creating space for more visitors

EXTRA car parking spaces are to be created in Bewdley town centre to cater for visitors. Load Street car park is set to be extended by as many as 55 spaces on the site of the former library and medical centre.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Westminster trip with MP is offered

RESIDENTS from the Dudley South constituency are invited to take part in a trip to Westminster organised by their MP Mike Wood.

The Dudley South MP has organised the trip for December 8. A coach will leave from Kingswinford Legion car park at 8.30am and will return from Westminster at 7pm.

A guided tour of the Palace of Westminster will be given by Mike and his assistant of Westminster Hall at around 4pm. The coach costs £20 per person. For more information, call (01384) 913123.

Valuation day is held in village

PEOPLE who think they could be harbouring hidden treasures in their home are being invited to find out how much they are worth at an antique valuation today (Thursday).

The valuation day, run by Stourbridge-based auctioneer Fieldings, will run from 11am until 2pm at Lowestone Court on Stone Lane, Kinver.

The auctioneers will value everything from ceramics, glass and silver to jewellery and paintings and help people put a cost to their most treasured possessions and finest family heirlooms.

Advice offered to budding authors

ASPIRING writers can get advice and guidance at an event at Dudley Library later this month. Dudley Library will be hosting a questions and answers session with a panel of published authors and poets next Saturday, November 26.

They will be talking about the writing process and answering questions from 10.30am until 1pm. To book a free ticket call (01384) 815560, email libraries@dudley.gov.uk or enquire at the library in St James's Road.

No stone unturned in historian's talk

THE Black Country Society are hosting a lecture which looks at burial places of the famous and infamous.

The lecture, 'Leave No Stone Unturned', will take place at the Black Country Living Museum.

Travelling from East Anglia will be historian John Vigar, a successful author, broadcaster and popular tour guide with over 40 years of experience.

The lecture takes place on Wednesday with tickets priced at £2.

Village new pub plan

A BLACK Country brewery is planning to open a pub in Hagley village.

Batham's, based in Brierley Hill, has bought Palladium House in Worcester Road, in the village near Stourbridge. Subject to approval, the brewery plans to open the new pub within 12 to 18 months.

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Politics? Give me a bit of that old apathy

THERE seems to be a lot of anger in the world at the moment. Just as it was with the EU referendum, the election over in the colonies has shown us that we are not alone in living in a society which seems to be very divided along ideological lines.

Where has all this vitriol suddenly come from? The liberal commentators' view seems to be that there is a simmering undercurrent of uneducated, older blue collar workers who feel that they have been left behind by progressive society. Which, roughly translated, means those who disagree with them are a bit thick.

But I think there is another force which is to blame. Smart phones.

Think about it. People used to hold enlightened discussions in public debates. Then radio phone-ins came along, turning the heat up a notch or two. Swiftly followed by Central Weekend which, for those who don't remember, was a bit like Question Time. With bouncers.

Now we have Facebook and Twitter, and anyone with a smart phone in their pocket has a ready audience. Suddenly everybody's a philosopher.

Only they aren't, because in this age of instant communication, weighing up the pros and cons, and trying to understand the opposite point of view, is just too slow. Instead, the whole thing has gone tribal. People decide which side they are on the way they choose a football team, and they'll stick to their guns through thick and thin. Woe betide anyone who takes the other side.

Old friendships come to an abrupt end on so-called social media. Last week, somebody I vaguely used to know called for a sniper to take out Donald Trump. How can anybody get so worked up about politics? And another country's politics at that.

Maybe I'm out of date. But I can't help but yearn for a bit of good old-fashioned apathy.

❒❒❒

WHATEVER one's views on the Merry Hill centre, it would be churlish not to give Don Richardson a huge slap on the back for his latest venture, a free car park outside Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley.

It is heartbreaking to see pensioners and other people on low incomes shelling out day after day to visit loved ones with long-term conditions, and this is a superb act of generosity from Mr Richardson.

Let's hope others follow this lead.

❒❒❒

UNDER new proposals, patients with sore throats may be referred to the chemist rather than their doctor. Do people really trouble their GP with such trivia? No wonder the NHS is strapped for cash.

Toughen up and get some Strepsils.

Jacket designer Elizabeth Isley, aged 21

Slaves jackets are very personalised

Kim Kardashian and Kanye West are customers

Jackets that fit well with the celebrities

Stars are clamouring for her designs, and it all started with a £10 buy from a charity shop, reports LUCY THOMPSON

DESIGNING jackets for A-list celebrities, 24,000 social media followers and a Liberty London exclusive collection – not bad for an art graduate who started out painting leather jackets in her bedroom.

Elizabeth Isley, from Sedgley, now counts Kanye West and Kim Kardashian among her customers but the journey all began after she bought a £10 leather jacket from The Salvation Army in Dudley three years ago.

The 21-year-old, who studied at Halesowen College, said: "I bought a leather jacket from The Salvation Army in Dudley and took it home but it was too big for me so I painted on it and used it as a wall decoration. I painted the words 'I shave my legs for you' and woke up the next day to thousands of Instagram followers including Rihanna."

Messages

Elizabeth's Instagram profile is where she regularly receives messages from her followers requesting their own specially-painted jackets.

She graduated from Birmingham City University with a degree in fine art.

"Towards the end of my university course Liberty London got in touch and wanted to stock my leather jackets in the shop," said Elizabeth. "I made 24 jackets, which sold out within six days, and now I'm scheduled to make 25 each month for them until February.

"My nan hates it, she can't believe Liberty would ever stock my art."

The creative juices flow and the magic happens at her studio in Digbeth in Birmingham.

She said: "I'm currently painting a jacket for Florence Welch of Florence + the Machine, her manager got in touch with my manager and stated that Florence loved the jackets and wanted one of her own. I've also done four jackets for Kanye West, he got in touch asking for three for his daughter North West and one for his wife Kim Kardashian. He shipped over his own jackets and I painted Kanye West lyrics on them at his request."

She has also done some jackets for the band Slaves. She prides herself in being a feminist and litters her art and bespoke £500 leather jackets with feminist slogans. The creative journey began though after a relationship break-up and general everyday girl problems, using 42 square inch boards and leather jackets to scribble down her regrets and stories. Her website states that her art work features 'witty one-liners and honest nods to her own experiences in life with romance and everyday girl problems like eating a whole box of mini rolls and basking in loneliness'.

But when her hands aren't full of paintbrushes, Elizabeth models, take photos and is part of 'GrlPwr Gang', a group of women that work together to support women in the creative industries and female empowerment, recently featuring on River Island's social media accounts for a live Q&A. Music is also one of Elizabeth's biggest inspirations, inspired by the punk era and her favourites Patti Smith and Courtney Love. She said: "I love the punk era from back in the day but all in all I just make what I want to wear. I walk around with painted and customised clothes as it's just what I want to wear and other people must want to too." New York is on the cards in February as Elizabeth has her own exhibition planned there.

Her first solo exhibition, All My Mistakes in One Room, is at Moosey Art in Norwich until November 5.

Some of the many jackets Elizabeth has painted and which are proving a great hit

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Bring back fast trains, not slow trams

LAST month Mark Andrews correctly pointed out that Dudley 'will continue to be the largest town in the country with no train link' (Chronicle, October 27).

Totally unnecessarily, because for the last 50 years there has remained the site of Dudley railway station, well-used for about 100 years, and the 65km double track main line railway safeguarded for the return of passenger trains.

This month he wrote 'while Birmingham receives its fourth city centre railway station, the rail network for the Black Country remains a joke." (Chronicle, November 3). How true.

It's got even worse. Our poorly informed councillors decided to build an 'Innovation Centre' on the site of Dudley railway station and to put a test track on 2km of the 65km between Stourbridge and Burton through the heart of the Black Country with its 1.3 million population.

Over the last 30 years, transport bosses and councillors have destroyed the following railway lines:

Dudley to Wolverhampton; Dudley to Birmingham; Dudley to Halesowen via Netherton and Old Hill and on to Longbridge.

Together we might be able to stop the 65km of missing Black Country link on the Worcester to Derby strategic railway from having buildings – and from having loss-making, slow and very expensive to build bus-like trams on two short sections totalling 7km.

It is far more sensible to reinstate the commuter and intercity trains on the full 65km for the same price as slow trams.

TIM WELLER
Halesowen

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

US election cover was over the top

I FULLY appreciate that we should have coverage of the American election but having it forced down our throats for almost 24 hours on the news programmes is beyond belief – even our General Election did not get so much coverage.

The BBC during the day of the election moved other programmes off the schedule and even more disgusting was the lack of coverage of the tram disaster in Croydon and other news.

To give the presidential election the coverage it had was both shameful and totally unwarranted.

This coverage appeared to make Britain into one of the states of that country.

On the local news for the Midlands, a couple of tourists from America stated they had come here to get away from the election and they could not believe how much coverage we gave to it.

PETE LOWE
Brierley Hill

Poppies worn for all affected by war

FOR some reason politics entered into the debate of the England and Scotland football match and the poppies.

When I was young and I used to go the cenotaph in Oldbury with my dad and saw everyone wearing poppies, I would ask why. My dad would say it's for all the brave men and women, but also for all the innocent people caught up in conflicts whose blood was spilt in order to resolve the problems of the time.

My dad wasn't an educated man but he was worldly-wise and looked beyond the obvious. He may not have seen as much action as many of the brave men and women whose names we see etched in stone but he would show us pictures of destruction and say: 'These people just wanted to live.'

Acknowledging them is as important as those fighting for their freedom, no matter whose side they belonged to.

I speak to a lot of old soldiers in my work with oral histories and language and can never comprehend the pain that they and their muckas must have gone through.

My dad wore his poppy for everyone. When he closed his eyes for a minute's silence it was for all affected by war.

DR B DAKIN
Tividale

No wicked plot at the allotments

MAY I respond to the person who appears to have several gripes with the Blaze Park Allotments in Victoria Street, Wall Heath, having attached an anonymous letter to our skip.

All members adhere to our strict rules regarding the removal of rubbish. We do at this time of year have an excess of waste material and rather than having nuisance bonfires, choose to pay for a skip sited off-road for a three day period.

We try to be most considerate towards neighbours with our rules for both size and quality of all garden structures. We maintain the grassed entrance area since the council refuse to accept responsibility for its upkeep.

Blaze Park Allotments are maintained to a very high standard, a credit to plot-holders who neither as I am aware cause parking problems. Perhaps the mystery writer would like to attend our AGM next Spring.

D VAUGHAN
Blaze Park Allotments

Generations united at the Drumhead service in Wolverhampton

The uniformed parade at Stourbridge during Remembrance Day

The solemn scene at Dudley Cenotaph on Sunday as the Black Country remembered

The Mayor of Dudley Councillor Mohammed Hanif lays a wreath

A salute for fallen comrades during the Drumhead service at Wolverhampton

Silence for the heroes

THE Black Country joined the rest of the country in falling silent on Remembrance Sunday in honour of the men and women who gave their lives for their country.

Services were held across the region as thousands gathered around cenotaphs and memorials to reflect on the sacrifices made during two worlds wars and other conflicts.

Hundreds of people came out to pay their respects and join the two minute silences held at 11am.

More than 3,000 people turned out in Dudley town centre to honour the fallen on Remembrance Sunday. A parade marched through the streets of the town centre, arriving at the Cenotaph in time for the two minutes' silence at 11am.

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Mohammed Hanif led the laying of wreaths on behalf of organisations and private individuals at the Cenotaph.

Several other services were also held across the borough, including at Mary Stevens Park in Stourbridge where a large crowd gathered at the war memorial.

The annual parade was held in Wolverhampton as The Band of the Mercian Regiment marched through the city centre towards St Peter's Church where an outdoor Drumhead service, the traditional form for a religious service attended by troops in the field, was held.

A large crowd attended at Mary Stevens Park in Stourbridge for a service at the war memorial.

Other Remembrance events were held in the Dudley borough, including at St James' Church in Gornal and St Peter's Church in Cradley. Parades were held across Sandwell, with major events at Dartmouth Park in West Bromwich and outside Smethwick Council House. A large crowd was at Tipton's Victoria Park to join the proceedings around the war memorial.

There was not a spare seat to be had at Dudley's Cenotaph ceremony

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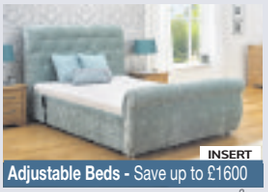

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Woman who caused fatal road accident is jailed

A WOMAN motorist has been jailed after she probably fell asleep at the wheel, causing an accident which killed a nurse from Stourbridge and seriously injuring his partner.

Shirley Glover's Volvo XC60 veered onto the wrong side of the A450, near Kidderminster, smashing head-on into an MG3, killing driver Stuart Frost.

Glover, aged 50, had failed to notify the DVLA that she suffered with obstructive sleep apnoea, a condition that can cause tiredness.

She had been diagnosed in 2014 and was given medical advice to avoid driving when tired.

She should also have contacted the DVLA as her symptoms could affect her ability to drive safely but she failed to do so.

She was jailed for two years and nine months at Hereford Crown Court after pleading guilty to causing death by dangerous driving and causing serious injury by dangerous driving.

Drowsiness

The court heard how Glover, from Stourport, had left work early on March 21 as she was not feeling well.

Despite having taken three prescription medicines that had warnings over drowsiness and driving vehicles, she got into her car to drive home.

As she approached Shenstone on the A450, her vehicle crossed the white line dividing the carriageway and collided with the car driven by nurse Mr Frost.

The crash happened between the Droitwich Island near Black Bridge and the Mustow Green Island, less than a mile from his parents' home.

Mr Frost was pronounced dead at the scene. His partner Emma, who was the front seat passenger, was taken to hospital with multiple injuries.

Crash victim Stuart Frost had just started a new job in nursing

Crash scene investigators concluded that the collision was a result of Glover's vehicle being on the wrong side of the road and believe she may have fallen asleep at the wheel.

When Glover's medical records were reviewed, investigators uncovered her undisclosed condition.

Glover was banned from driving for five years and must pass an extended test before she is allowed back behind the wheel.

Obstructive sleep apnoea is a condition that can cause breathing to slow down or stop briefly during sleep. The knock-on effect can be feeling tired during the day.

After the sentencing, Ian Crooks, from West Midlands Crown Prosecution Service, said Glover had no right to be driving after taking so much medication and having a condition that made her prone to tiredness.

He said: "This prosecution highlights the consequences of failing to heed medical advice and to drive in circumstances where it may not be safe to so do.

"Shirley Glover failed to follow these instructions. She was fully aware of her obstructive sleep apnoea, yet she still got behind the wheel of her car when feeling tired.

Devastating

"As a result Glover failed to control that vehicle. It then crossed the carriageway and into the path of the oncoming MG3 being driven by Mr Frost.

"The consequences of Glover's failure to control her vehicle were devastating.

"Our thoughts are are very much with the family and friends of Stuart Frost."

Mr Frost, aged 42, was a former member of the RAF and of the Military Police.

He had decided on a change of career and attended Worcester University, where he achieved a first-class degree in nursing. During his time there he met his partner Emma.

Mr Frost had started a new job shortly before his death, working with the home treatment team from Kidderminster Hospital.

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Arson fear at flat above chip shop

A FIRE above a popular fish and chip shop in Pensnett is being treated as arson.

A police investigation is now under way after the blaze at the flat above Goodies Chip Shop, on Tansey Green Road.

The attack took place in the staircase area of the first floor flat above Goodies, which was left with smoke damage.

A spokesperson from West Midlands Fire Service said: "We sent eight firefighters from Brierley Hill station to the fire.

"We were told the fire took place in the first floor flat above the chip shop.

"We requested police to attend the fire as the incident looked to be suspicious."

The fire broke out at 6.34pm on Thursday. Firefighters used breathing apparatus while they fought the flames, which had been extinguished by 8.45pm.

A spokesperson from West Midlands Police said: "An investigation has been launched and is currently being treated as arson."

Security guard stops air rifle man threatening passers-by

A MAN who strode through Sedgley town centre pointing an air rifle at people has been locked up for 14 months.

Gavin Harkins was stopped when he came face to face with a security guard, who took the gun off him and hit him with it, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Harkins had gone home after being refused entry to a pub, collected the air rifle and a kitchen knife and returned to the area after midnight on August 14.

The 22-year-old pointed the .22 rifle at people in the Bull Ring in Sedgley.

With his finger on the trigger he warned 'you are having it,' said Mr Mark Phillips, prosecuting.

Mark Bradley, in charge of the door staff at the nearby Swan pub, went up to Hawkins with another man and disarmed him oat 12.30am.

The defendant was struck several times with the butt of the gun.

Mr Phillips said: "Mr Bradley ensured he no longer presented a threat to anybody while they waited for the police."

Harkins was taken to hospital with facial injuries and arrested after receiving treatment. He declined to answer when quizzed by police but later told a probation officer that he armed himself after being refused entry to a pub.

Mr Phillips added: "We had a man coming out with a weapon and pointing it at somebody while having ammunition for the weapon, whether it was armed or not."

Mr Anthony Potter, defending, said Harkins, a full-time carer for his mother, was 'ashamed and embarrassed' by his conduct.

Harkins, from Glenn Road, Dudley, pleaded guilty to possession of an air rifle and knife and was jailed for 14 months.

Gavin Harkins – jailed

Lucky escape as car hits pub wall

CUSTOMERS had a lucky escape when a car smashed through the wall of a Sedgley pub.

Drinkers and nearby residents were shocked by a loud bang and rushed out to see rubble strewn across the car park at The Beacon Hotel in Bilston Street.

The crash happened on Friday night just after 9pm when a red Vauxhall Astra GTC struck the wall that surrounds the pub's car park.

The pub's general manager Alex Marchant said the driver was not apparently hurt after hitting the wall after swerving out of the way of another vehicle.

He added: "We didn't need to shut when it happened, in fact, we were probably busier with people coming along to have a look what was going on. We're just grateful that everyone is okay."

Police attended and no arrest was made.

Young dancers made all the right moves

Pictured from left are Charlotte Gould, Courtney Lines-Glover and Amelia Hubbard as they celebrate their European success in Blackpool

THREE Black Country girls are celebrating after returning home with trophies from the European Dance championship at Blackpool's Winter Gardens.

Nine-year-old Courtney Lines-Glover, of Cradley, came first in the under-10s freestyle. Meanwhile, Charlotte Gould, 12, of Rowley Regis and Amelia Hubbard, 12, of Halesowen, came first in the rock and roll dance category.

The girls are from the Rhythmics Dance Centre school based in Cradley Heath.

Kelly Glover, Courtney's mum, said: "It was a massive achievement for the girls to make the final let alone get first place."

She added: "It's such an achievement because Courtney's so young and because of the amount of people she was competing against.

"We were extremely proud of her and all the other girls from the dance school. They were all supporting each other. It's like having one big family and I'm proud of all of them."

Rhythmics Dance Centre was established in 1995 and has twwo dance studios.

Man is charged over teenager's death

A MAN has been charged with the kidnap and manslaughter of Tipton teenager Kaydel Williams.

Construction worker Simon Seeney, 34, from Downside Road, Erdington, appeared at Birmingham Magistrates Court on Saturday.

He has been remanded in custody until Friday, December 9, to appear at Birmingham Crown Court.

A 34-year-old woman who was arrested on suspicion of perverting the course of justice and assisting an offender has been released on police bail while enquiries continue.

Mr Williams, 19, was found injured on Hunton Road, Erdington shortly before 9pm on October 7. Mr Williams was pronounced dead at the scene.

Investigating officer Detective Inspector Warren Hines, from Force CID, said: "We believe that several people may have been involved in the young man's death."

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Fly-tipped rubbish is ruining walk by canal

A DOG walker is devastated that her regular canalside walk has been ruined by persistent fly-tippers.

Pensioner Judith Fisher who has lived on Temple Way in Tividale for the past 10 years used to enjoy walking along the canal with her dog Teddy but, in recent months, it has been spoilt by a variety of rubbish.

Ms Fisher said: "It's absolutely disgusting.

Mechanical

"There has been mechanical waste and other rubbish left not only by Britannia Road, but all along the canal.

"I'd say it has been going on for the past seven months.

"I've seen swans and a cygnet, a heron and a kingfisher. But I think it was either oil or fat which I saw that had been poured on the surface of the water. I like the wildlife and I worry what effect all this is having."

Ms Fisher was even put off taking her normal walk when she saw a suspicious looking van and car park up close to the canal, and she has contacted the council with her concerns.

She added: "It's lovely to walk along there in the summer, and in the winter too. But this has just spoilt it."

The dog walker was relieved to see that there was less rubbish at the location last week than on her previous visits, but she is concerned that the culprits will just return as they have done many times before.

"This needs to be nipped in the bud, to stop them coming back again," she said.

Jude Fisher with her dog Teddy looks at rubbish left beside the canal off Britannia Road, Tividale

'Exceptional' year boosts LCP profits

ONE of the Black Country's biggest property companies has hailed 'an exceptional year' as profits soared by over £7 million.

Newly filed figures at Companies House show profits and turnover both on the rise at London & Cambridge Properties, based at Kingswinford.

And it has seen the value of its shopping centres, offices and industrial estates across Europe and the UK rise to £1.16 billion.

The company owns sites across the Black Country, including its 2.3 million sq ft flagship Pensnett Industrial Estate in Kingwinford, where LCP has its own headquarters.

As well as industrial estates in Wednesbury, Oldbury, West Bromwich and Burntwood, it owns the Wulfrun shopping centre in Wolverhampton town centre, the Churchill Centre in Dudley, Brierley Hill's Moor Centre, Park Place in Walsall and Aldridge Shopping Centre.

Across the UK it has 410 sites extending to 15 million sq ft, with more than 3,500 tenant businesses. At any one time around 93 per cent of its space is in use.

New factory to bring more than 100 jobs

A FIRM which makes parts for some of the world's largest car makers has been given the green light for a £25 million expansion, including a new factory in the Black Country creating up to 150 jobs.

Steel and Alloy Processing will build the factory on the site of a former Albright High School in Oldbury.

The company has its headquarters in West Bromwich and also has sites in Darlaston, Cannock and Smethwick, counting the likes of Jaguar, Vauxhall, Volkswagen and Volvo among its customers.

Its latest factory will be built on a 25,000 sq ft site in Popes Lane which, as well as being Albright High until it closed in 1983, also housed Sandwell's Training and Development Centre, which has now been demolished.

Surge

Company director Max Coleman said the expansion had been driven by a surge in demand for motor parts.

He said: "We are a key supplier in the automotive industry. There will be an investment of £25m in this facility which we will look to have operational by the end of the year.

"We are committed to building a high-quality facility and generate jobs in Sandwell."

The plans were backed by members of Sandwell Council's planning committee last week.

Mr Coleman said staff would be employed over three phases, with 46 workers being taken on initially before eventually growing to around 150.

By Richard Guttridge

In addition to the factory, the proposal will see more that 500 sqm used for a utilities and waste management area, and a 700 sqm two-storey office building.

Steel and Alloy Processing has been based in West Bromwich for almost 50 years.

Although the plans were unanimously approved, the firm may be asked to work with the council to improve access to the site after road safety concerns were raised.

Worries about the safety of the junction of Popes Lane and Birmingham Road were raised by a nearby business during the council's planning meeting.

John Wood, director of Liberty Industry Group, which is also based on Popes Lane, told the committee: "The junction is definitely unsafe. Lorries can't turn round.

"It is very difficult getting in and out. There definitely needs to be some sort of improvement at that junction."

Warning after hair straighteners start blaze

A SET of hair straighteners sparked a blaze which caused major damage at a house in Rowley Regis, prompting a safety message from firefighters.

Crews were called to the house in Wylde Crescent, Rowley Regis on Saturday to tackle the blaze. It started in the rear bedroom of the semi-detached house at 4.20pm after straighteners were left on a bed.

The occupants of the house managed to get out before firefighters arrived.

Two firefighters wore breathing apparatus to tackle the blaze.

Fire chiefs have issued a warning to remind people of the potential risk posed by heated hair straighteners.

Watch Commander Justin Bayliss, from Haden Cross Fire Station, said: "Be careful. Please make sure hair straighteners are turned off as these things can heat up to 200C."

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Thief strikes as woman kneels at veteran's grave

A THIEF stole a grandmother's handbag as she laid poppies at the grave of her war veteran father on Remembrance Day.

The callous crook seized an opportunity to strike, snatching the bag from the passenger footwell of Rita Herrington's car as she knelt at the grave just a few yards away.

Her husband Terry attempted to give chase after noticing the Michael Kors bag had been stolen but tripped and hit his face on the ground, cutting his nose and hands.

The elderly couple, from Swindon, near Wall Heath, were left shaken after the incident at about 3pm on Friday. The grandparents had parked at Dudley Cemetery so Mrs Herrington, 75, could put a Remembrance Cross and poppies on the grave of her father Fred Russon, who fought in the First World War. He survived the war and died at the age of 69.

Running

Their Vauxhall Meriva had been left unlocked as they had not seen anybody around and were only stopping for a few minutes. But within minutes Mr Herrington, 79, turned to see a man, thought to be aged in his late teens or early 20s, running off with the bag towards a dark blue car.

The bag contained bank cards, a small amount of change and photographs of the couple's daughters.

Mr Herrington said: "We're normally very careful but there was nobody in the graveyard. I happened to turn and saw this figure grabbing my wife's bag. I ran after him but tripped. Once I had fallen they had gone."

Mr Herrington, an engineer for almost 50 years at Smiths Aerospace in Wolverhampton, said he was disgusted that someone could target a cemetery, particularly on Remembrance Day.

Victims of theft – Rita and Terry Herrington recovering at their home

Pensioner died in garage fire

TRIBUTES have been paid to a pensioner who died in a fire, which has been described as a 'tragic accident'.

The victim, named locally as Colin Dunn, aged in his 70s, died in the blaze on Sunday night in his garage on Six Ashes Road in Bobbington, near Stourbridge.

Neighbours described Mr Dunn as a popular person who had lived in the village with his family for nearly four decades.

Emergency services rushed to the scene at 6.50pm on Sunday. They found the garage well alight,with one man inside. He was declared dead at the scene.

Sgt Lee Wareing of Staffordshire Police said: "This fire is not being treated as suspicious. Witness accounts indicate it was a tragic accident but we need to establish how the blaze started.

"We anticipate it will be a few days before we have concluded our examination of the scene."

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Inspirational Ted's on song with his life story

THE story of the 'Songaminute Man' is due to be published next in year, his son has confirmed.

The remarkable journey of Ted McDermott, who grew up in the Black Country, will be published by HQ, a division of Harper Collins UK – as told by his son, Simon.

The inspirational 80-year-old who sufferers from Alzheimers, became an internet sensation earlier this year when his son filmed him singing along to Quando, Quando, Quando.

In an extraordinary adventure, Ted, with the help of his son, has raised more than £130,000 for the Alzheimer's Society charity and hit the charts after signing to record label Decca in a whirlwind few months.

The Songaminute Man will tell this remarkable story in full, going into detail on Ted, who was previously a Butlin's Redcoat and a much-loved and talented entertainer, who plied his trade in the clubs of the Black Country before relocating north in the 1960s.

The 80-year-old outside Abbey Road

Ted and Simon, in the car they sing in

Award – Simon with Cliff Richard and Joan Collins

Difference

The news comes after Simon and Ted were awarded for their achievement and presented a Pride of Britain Award for Special Recognition.

Simon said: "Not in my wildest dreams did I ever think that driving Dad to the supermarket and having a singalong would make such a huge difference not only to his own life, but to so many other people around the world.

"Since the video went viral we have received thousands of messages from across the globe – many of which describe how Dad's voice has brought so much joy and inspiration – especially to those families who are also dealing with a loved one's dementia. Being the eldest of 14 children and working as an entertainer for a number of decades, Dad has had a rich and varied life with hundreds of stories to tell. It's my privilege and duty to be able to tell it for him at a time when he can't do it himself."

Rachel Kenny, Senior Commissioning Editor at HQ, said: "This is real home-grown, feel-good, true-life story territory.

"With the evocative nostalgia of 40s to 80s Britain on the one-hand, a touching snapshot of a lifelong father-son bond on the other, plus a nod to modern technology's amazing ability to take that snapshot and use it to inspire and move millions – The Songaminute Man has huge cross-generational appeal and mass-market potential."

The Songaminute Man will be published in autumn 2017 in hardback, ebook and audio download.

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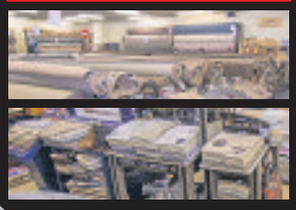

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Why teenage life 'was so tough' for Thomas

"TRYING to pull a girlfriend when you are a teenager wearing a leotard is pretty difficult."

Black Country Olympic medal winning athlete Kristian Thomas has opened up about his early career as an aspiring gymnast and the sacrifices he had to make to make it to the top.

Kristian, aged 27, who hails from Wolverhampton, spoke of having a 'really hard time' as a teenager and revealed he used to sneak Haribo sweets and a Playstation into his suitcase when travelling for competitions.

Kristian Thomas

Asked about how he got into gymnastics, the freshly enrolled Wolverhampton University student said: "I do not say this often to him, perhaps ever, but it is actually my big brother who I have got to thank.

"He was always running around and climbing up things like the Christmas tree and eventually my parents decided no more bottles of Coke and sent him down the local gymnastics club.

"I followed him even though I had no idea what gymnastics was. But after a while I realised that I could do things that others could not.

"I played football when I was younger as well but it got to a point where I just had to concentrate on athletics."

Asked about school and the sacrifices he had to make, Kristian, who now lives near Cannock, revealed it was really hard.

He said: "I had to give up certain foods, drinks. I would not have been able to do it without the support of my family who made a lot of sacrifices as well, even taking time off work sometimes to take me to competitions.

"I obviously missed a lot of school so I would have to catch up while I was away competing. But it did not stop me sneaking my Playstation in my bag and some Haribo or Maoam sweets.

Kristian on the horizontal bar during the men's team final in Rio

Supportive

"My school were really supportive and allowed me to catch-up. I used to miss mornings because I was training but then sometimes I was late into school just because I was late – so I told them I was training."

When asked if he had to give up girls, he quipped: "Trying to pull a girlfriend when you are a teenager wearing a leotard is pretty difficult." However, there is one thing above all else that he remembers as a child.

"One thing that has always stuck with me is that I was told from a young age I was going to be too tall to be a gymnast," he said.

Kristian, who trains in Halesowen, was speaking at the Black Country Sports Awards held in Dudley, where he won the Sports Personality of the Year gong, beating local Paralympians Helen Scott and Jordanne Whiley MBE. On the night he brought along his bronze medal from the London 2012 Olympics and confessed he keeps it in his sock drawer.

"I think the night was really good," he said. "The importance of showcasing grassroots in any sport is very important up to elite level because that is where everybody has come from."

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Phantom of Love goes to auction

IT is one of the most famous Rolls-Royce cars ever created – and it was designed and made in Wolverhampton.

Inspired by an 18th century royal sedan chair, it features stunning tapestry, concealed seats and its very own drinks cabinet.

Affectionately known as The Phantom of Love, it is expected to fetch up to £700,000 when it goes under the hammer in London next month.

But the story behind the 1926 Phantom I is very much centred on Wolverhampton.

It was built for American businessman Clarence Gasque as a gift for his wife Maude, a Woolworth's heiress, who had a passion for French 18th century history and design.

Inspired

As such Gasque wanted it to have a French theme but he left the entire design to Wolverhampton-based coachbuilders, Charles Clark and Sons.

With no limit on budget, the firm's owner, John Barnett, set about his task and was inspired by using a Marie Antoinette sedan chair he had come across at the Victoria and Albert Museum as a model.

The result was an unrivalled piece of decadence more resembling the throne room at Versailles than the inside of a car. Naked cherubs feature prominently in the exotic interior, appearing in painted scenes on the ceiling and as lighting supports at the rear corners.

On delivery, the Rolls-Royce cost £6,500, of which £4,500 had been spent on the interior. At the time £500 could have bought a house.

It is being sold by Bonhams auctioneers at their Bond Street sale on December 4. Bonhams' Senior Motor Car Specialist, Rob Hubbard, said: "Extensively illustrated and described in numerous books and magazine articles about the Rolls-Royce marque, The Phantom of Love is, arguably, the most famous surviving Rolls-Royce after 'Axe 201', the factory owned 1907 Silver Ghost.

"Unique and well documented, it is without question one of the very finest examples of art and craftsmanship applied to an automobile."

The lavish car recently caught the eye of petrolhead and former Top Gear host Chris Evans who was allowed a test drive.

Afterwards, he said: "First to second was continuously sticky, but with second to third much smoother and heaps of torque available from the huge 7.7-litre engine, we quickly began to get a better understanding of each other."

Cherubs feature in exotic interior

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Work starts on community centre after nine year wait

LONG-AWAITED work on a new community centre in Dudley is gathering pace – with councillors optimistic it will finally be open to the public by the spring.

Latest images show how the North Priory Community Centre site is shaping up after the scheme was given the go-ahead, after having been dogged by delays.

Diggers have moved onto the site and begun clearing ground ready for the foundations to be laid. The centre will take shape over the coming weeks.

It was a proud moment for campaigners when the spade finally went in the ground after a seven-year battle to have the community centre built near Donkey Pool playing fields on Priory Road.

The site has been empty since the former community buildings were knocked down in 2007.

The scheme for the new community centre ran into difficulties over problems with funding. The project is expected to cost around £600,000.

The venue will include a meeting hall, kitchen, cafe, changing rooms, shower facilities and multi-use games area. It will host activities for children and will also be used for functions and public events.

Councillor Ken Finch, who represents the Castle and Priory ward, has led the battle to secure the community centre for the best part of a decade.

He said he was delighted the project was coming to fruition 'against all the odds'.

He said: "I was down there last week and it is really beginning to take shape. It is due to be finished in May but I am hoping it will be finished before then.

"I am delighted that we will have a community centre that people will be able to use for years to come."

Dudley College and Dudley Council have donated tables and chairs.

Broken boiler forcing tree service move

THE Mary Stevens Hospice have been forced to move the annual Oldswinford Tree of Light ceremony to the Great Hall at Oldswinford Hospital School.

The service normally takes place at St Mary's Church in Oldswinford but due to a broken boiler, which can't be fixed before the service on November 26, the hospice have made alternative arrangements.

The service on that date will now take place at the later time of 4:30pm, to allow for anyone who arrives at the church to make their way over to the alternative venue.

Chaplain David Knight said: "It's a great shame as we have always held the service in the church and it provides a stunning and poignant backdrop to a very moving ceremony. However, we are incredibly grateful to Oldswinford Hospital for stepping in."

Visit www.facebook.com/marystevenshospice/events for further information or call (01384) 377778.

Apartments to replace derelict pub

The derelict and vandalised Commercial Inn in Pensnett is to be demolished to make way for apartments

A PUB in Pensnett which has stood derelict for a decade will be demolished to make way for an apartment block.

Dudley Council's development control committee voted unanimously in favour of the demolition of The Commercial Inn, at a meeting last week.

The vacant 1930s pub situated on the corner of Bromley and Mullett Street, will make way for nine apartments with parking.

The committee heard how the pub has been broken into and had become a target of vandalism and anti-social behaviour since being boarded up.

A campaign by nearby residents saw around 1,500 people sign a petition, launched by the Corbyns Bromley Tenants and Residents Association, which called for the building to be redeveloped. Planning officers recommended the application be approved.

Addressing the committee at the planning meeting, representative for the Brockmoor and Pensnett ward, Councillor Judy Foster said: "You can see from the photographs what an eyesore this current, derelict, commercial building is, and it has stood like that for 10 years. This application is very much supported by the overwhelming majority of residents."

During ten years the pub has been derelict, windows have been smashed and there have been break-ins.

Residents' association member Michelle Morgan said: "There have been a few people who have tried to sell their homes and people coming to view them have asked how the long the pub is going to be in that condition."

Students are selected for medical path

SIXTH form students planning a health career have been selected to join a pathway programme into medicine.

If they successfully complete the course they could be eligible for a subsidised place on the 2018 entry degree course. This would be based at Aston Medical School, at Aston University, in Birmingham.

The students taking part are from Old Swinford Hospital school in Stourbridge. Nabihah Yasin and Phoebe Malin, of Brierley Hill, Nattaporn Weaver, of Quarry Bank, and Amy Waters, from Stourbridge, are taking part.

Opportunity

Phoebe said: "This is an amazing opportunity providing an insight into medicine and guidance towards my chosen career.

"I'm very lucky to be part of this programme and I'm looking forward to the next event."

They will attend a range of activities and events to prepare them to enter medical school.

These will include medical taster days, work experience, support sessions, summer school and interview practice.

The programme is designed to help students from across the Black Country.

Council leader goes back to his old school

DUDLEY'S council leader returned to his old school as a VIP guest. Councillor Peter Lowe visited Thorns Community College where he had been a pupil in the 1980s.

The council boss visited lessons and toured the facilities with head boy Stephen Sault and head girl Moumina Hussain. Councillor Lowe said: "As a Black Country bloke, born and bred, I have nothing but fond memories of my time at Thorns."

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Elf service gets safari park ready for Santa

WEST Midland Safari Park has enlisted some extra help this year for the festive season in the form of 60 elves.

The team of Santa's little helpers have been working hard transforming the Park's Discovery Trail into a winter wonderland, ready for Santa's arrival. The big man himself was due to arrive this week for the park's annual Santa Safari.

Not only have the elves set up the magical grotto at the attraction between Kidderminster and Bewdley. They have created a cosy craft club for Mrs Claus to run, they have also planted more than 350 Christmas trees, surrounded by a sprinkling of over 1,500 kg of 'snow'.

Toys

Next on the agenda is 'Elf School' where they will undertake an intense training course which includes learning elf etiquette, the best ways to spread Christmas cheer and what toys are the most popular this year. They will also learn how to take the perfect 'elfie' for the Park's competition, where guests can win a Family VIP Experience.

Head elf Tinker said, "We have been really busy over the past week, setting up for Santa Safari – it is our favourite time of the year. After a quick refresh on 'elf and safety,' we got to work setting up; hanging hundreds of lights, filling the toy shop with gifts and making sure every bauble is hung perfectly."

Santa will need children's help this year as one of the elves has hidden all of the reindeers' presents. Children can follow a trail to see if they can find them all and if they succeed they will be rewarded with a special gift.

As well as all of the activities, shows and a visit to Santa, children will be treated to their own choice of present, a photo with Santa to take home, choice of drink and a cookie. Adults will be treated to a hot drink and mince pie.

Santa Safari opens for weekends only then daily from 26 November until Christmas Eve.

Admission is £21 for adults, £17.00 for children aged 3-15 years, £7.50 for children under the age of three and £19 for concessions.

Admission includes a voucher for a return ticket or safari gift.

Further information and tickets are available from the Santa Safari official website www.santasafari.com or by telephone on 01299 400700.

Let it snow – the elves ensure that the West Midland Safari Park grotto is ready for Father Christmas

Witness call after rider is injured in hit-and-run incident

POLICE and relatives are appealing for witnesses after a motorcyclist was seriously injured following a hit-and-run in Rowley Regis.

Father-of-three Graham Hickman remains in a critical condition in hospital after being struck by a vehicle in Birmingham Road just after 7.40pm on Sunday, October 30. The 52-year-old, who was riding a Harley Davidson bike, suffered serious head and leg injuries and officers are particularly keen to hear from witnesses who saw a dark coloured convertible in the area.

A statement from Mr Hickman's family said: "Graham is a loving husband and father to three daughters. He is a hard working engineer, supportive and loyal to many friends – he is a good, honest man. We are understandably shocked and devastated by what has happened.

Convertible

"We urge anyone who may possibly have seen or heard anything around the time the incident occurred, or who may have other information – no matter how small – to come forward as soon as possible."

Pc Damian Gibson added: "I would like to appeal to anyone who saw a dark coloured convertible car with its roof down. We believe that this car is local and may have crucial information, so I would urge the driver or anybody who saw the vehicle to contact police. If anyone has any information relating to this collision – however insignificant they feel it may be – I would like to hear from them." Call 101 quoting CIU203/16 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

More than 100 calls to police over clowns

MORE than 100 calls were made from the Black Country to police over clowns in less than three weeks, shock figures reveal.

From the bizarre to the serious – all kinds of 999 calls relating to clowns were made to West Midlands Police from Dudley, Sandwell, Wolverhampton and Walsall during the run-up to Halloween.

The force responded in most cases but no immediate arrests were made from any of the calls.

The calls ranged from a 'clowning sighting in a park' to 'people on a bus wearing clown masks' to 'threatened by clowns'.

They took place from October 1 to 19. There were no reported incidents in September.

In Walsall, 30 incidents were reported, in Sandwell there were 29, Dudley there were 23 and Wolverhampton there were 19.

A spokesman for the force said: "We're not aware of any other recent incidents."

Not funny – a scary clown

Hysteria

The figures reflect the hysteria caused by the 'killer clown craze' that spread from America.

Childline Birmingham was contacted 73 times by children afraid of clowns in October.

Nationally, the service was contacted 462 times, with 84 clown-related counselling sessions on one day alone.

Police advised people not to like social media pages dedicated to the creepy clown trend in which people dress as clowns to scare people.

The craze may have been inspired by Pennywise the clown, a malevolent character played by actor Tim Curry in the 1990 TV series based on the horror novel It by American author Stephen King.

One of the incidents in the Black Country involved a 'killer clown' frightening a 22-year-old woman in Bloxwich High Street.

Shaniece Price was driving when she videoed the man in a mask with long red hair running towards her car.

Miss Price, who works in a betting shop, said she fled into a nearby pub but the clown followed her and stood in the doorway.

In another incident a boy with a clown mask, approached a 14-year-old in Swan Lane, West Bromwich, grabbing his arm.

A photograph of a clown reportedly lurking outside McDonald's in Kidderminster was posted on Facebook page Clown Sightings In The UK.

The craze turned so serious that it started impacting bookings for professional children's entertainers.

Bridgnorth-based Flip the clown was upset. He said: "All this is negative publicity that is not beneficial to those of us who earn a living working as clowns."

Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, November 17, 2016

Snuggling up instead of flicking the switch

AS Britain starts to freeze, consumers in the region are shunning nights out in favour of snuggly jumpers and blankets.

In an effort to dodge hefty heating bills, the majority are turning the heating off and putting their jumpers on.

People are hosting alternative nights in, including cocktail evenings, to avoid expensive and chilly nights out.

As the days become colder and nights draw in, new research reveals people are reaching for extra layers, warmer foods and blankets to fight the chill without having to rely on costly heating systems.

The study from TopCashback.co.uk, the cashback and comparison website, finds that the majority (70 per cent) of consumers in the area are holding off turning the heating on and are instead looking to cheaper alternatives to warm them up in an effort to dodge high heating bills.

Consumers are layering up with jumpers (75 per cent), tucking into warmer foods (55 per cent) and snuggling up in blankets (51 per cent) before giving in and putting on the more expensive central heating.

However, even these are not a cost-free solution as consumers are spending on average £79 stocking up on warming comforts.

Furthermore, of those turning to winter warmers, 29 per cent even shell out on a new winter wardrobe costing a staggering £190, £50 more than consumers spent last year.

But despite investing in extra layers, 41 per cent gave in and switched their heating on in October.

Nine per cent are holding out longer than they did in 2015 before giving in and putting the boiler on, perhaps to avoid large bills.

Arguments

The research, of more than 250 adults, reveals that as temperatures drop tempers rise with almost half (47 per cent) disclosing arguments occur when it comes to deciding when to switch the heating on.

Alternatives suggested in the heat of the moment include putting on layers (93 per cent), having a hot drink (41 per cent) and even taking a jog around the house (five per cent).

To avoid the chill, the majority (61 per cent) admit to cancelling plans because it is too cold, with around half (48 per cent) ducking out of a night out once a month.

Other reasons for shunning nights out include feeling too lethargic (51 per cent) and people not being bothered (45 per cent) in the colder months.

With boozy nights out costing consumers £45, more than two-fifths (41 per cent) are also staying at home to save money.

As consumers opt for nights in, whether the heating is on or not, they are saving on average £26 a night.

Three in 10 (30 per cent) are picking up cheaper local takeaways whereas a quarter (25 per cent) are opting to make fakeaways to keep costs down. Some people are even sharing streaming site logins (13 per cent) to avoid the expense of renting a new movie or watching the latest Netflix series.

But a night in does not always mean a quiet night as 45 per cent prefer drinking in the comfort of their own homes with friends and family. People are also enjoying homemade cocktail nights instead of going out to bars and clubs (11 per cent).

Natasha Rachel Smith, consumer affairs editor for TopCashback.co.uk, said: "With energy bills increasing, consumers are turning to low-cost solutions as a rest bite from the cold, as well as side-stepping nights out in favour of staying in.

"Regardless of whether consumers are having a big night in or if they are planning to cuddle up on the sofa, switching energy providers always makes a big difference to monthly outgoings.

"Hundreds of pounds can be saved by changing suppliers and TopCashback offers cashback on top; one member recently saved £300 pounds by switching."

Top winter warmers

1. Jumpers or extra layers (75%)
2. Hats, scarves and gloves (73%)
3. Boots (60%)
4. Warmer foods (55%)
5. Blankets (51%)
6. Hot water bottles (36%)
7. Thermals (24%)
8. Draft excluders (22%)
9. Electric heaters (16%)

Nearly three quarters of children aged nine don't know how to boil an egg

Start with food children are interested in, such as pizzas, rice and potatoes

Cooking up confidence for kids in the kitchen

By Lisa Salmon

UNLESS you're happy for your children to survive on takeaways or beans on toast after they leave home, you need to make sure they know how to cook.

But while new research shows more than 80% of parents think cooking with their kids is important and teaches them a valuable life skill, only 32% of parents cook with their children more than once a month, and 14% admit they never cook with their kids.

As such, the research by Uncle Ben's 'Ben's Beginner's' campaign, which aims to inspire families to cook together and increase their confidence in the kitchen, found nearly three quarters of children aged nine don't know how to boil an egg, and two fifths are unsure how to peel a potato.

However, parents failing to teach their kids to cook isn't quite as simple as them just not bothering to do it, as the Ben's Beginners Kitchen Confidence study found there were several barriers to parent-child cookery instruction – 41% of parents said they wish they had more time to cook with their children, and 24% said they'd be more inclined to do so if it was less messy.

And as well as time and mess, a quarter of parents said they don't cook with their kids simply because the children aren't interested.

However, kids' cooking expert Fiona Hamilton-Fairley stresses that by not learning to cook, children are missing out on essential life skills which could also lead to unhealthy eating habits later in life.

"We know the impact that cooking and eating as a family has on health, but we also know the challenges of today's busy lifestyle and getting kids to be enthusiastic and engaged in the kitchen,'' says Hamilton-Fairley, chief executive of The Kids' Cookery School in London.

"Parents are time-poor, and a lot of them are frightened of the mess, the chaos and the out-of-control moments. And also, there's a certain amount of danger.

"But one day, those kids are going to have to make something in a kitchen, however old they are, so the earlier they start learning how to do it, the better."

She gives the following advice to get kids cooking:

Start young

Hamilton-Fairley suggests parents should initially get young children, from the age of about three, to sit on a stool in the kitchen helping out, obviously not with sharp implements, but measuring, touching and tasting.

Food origins

Understanding where food comes from is a key part of encouraging children to enjoy cooking, Hamilton-Fairley explains. "Many children don't know where their food comes from, or that some of it, like pasta for instance, is actually made first. They need to understand that food's not just from supermarkets; how it gets there, where it grows or comes from. It adds a bit more excitement to meals for them."

Only 32% of parents cook with their children more than once a month, though 80% think it teaches them a valuable life skill

Fiona Hamilton-Fairley gives advice on family cooking

Food they like

It's important to start with food children are interested in, usually pizzas, rice, potatoes etc. "Making a pizza from scratch is very easy," says Hamilton-Fairley, "but it's only easy if you know how, and what to buy. But once they've made it, their pride is huge that they did it themselves, and they'll start to experiment with different ingredients."

Keep it simple

Another easy idea is making a rice-based dish, to which all sorts of healthy ingredients can be added, and even making bread with the kids, which she promises is much easier than people think. Some of the best recipes are the simplest, she says, and favourites like spaghetti bolognese are always winners to make and eat with kids.

Safety first

Obviously, much cooking involves using sharp implements, and Hamilton-Fairley says knowing when a child is responsible enough to use a knife is a judgement individual parents have to make. She suggests many children start using knives around the age of eight. "Know your child and realise they're going to have to pick up a knife at some point, so it's best you show them how to do it properly and safely," she says.

Keep it healthy

"It's very important for parents to teach not just the cooking but the health implications," stresses Hamilton-Fairley, explaining that this might include why fresh food, low-fat, low-sugar and low-salt is important. "Our children are literally growing up living on takeaways, and this is why we have so many health problems."

Tasty choices

Hamilton-Fairley says a lot of children are used to bland food, and as they grow, their tastebuds change. By learning to cook themselves, they can include flavours they like and are therefore more likely to eat in their cooking, rather than being forced to eat flavours chosen by their parents. "Once their tastebuds are brought to life and they start having some great tastes on their palate, I think they're more encouraged to cook," says Hamilton-Fairley.

Make time

"Turn the telly or the tablets off and make the time to prepare, cook and eat together," advises Hamilton-Fairley. "Some parents are doing way too much – if not everything – in the kitchen, and they're not challenging their children by even asking simple things like can they make some toast. It's very important to do that – we don't want to bring up a generation of kids that can't do anything in the kitchen."

She warns that parents shouldn't force children to cook, as it could ruin their confidence, but advises: "Just try to get into the kitchen together, and realise you're not going to make a gourmet meal at the first attempt, but maybe by the fourth or fifth time you'll be experimenting and really having fun."

For more information visit beginners.unclebens.co.uk

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EVERY SATURDAY UNTIL 17 DEC

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SAT 10, 17 DEC

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Madeleine Peyroux

Monday, 8pm
Town Hall, Birmingham
The French-American jazz singer returns with Secular Hymns, an album recorded in an Oxfordshire church, including songs by Tom Waits, Willie Dixon, Lee Dorsey and Allen Toussaint.
See **www.thsh.co.uk**

Slaves

Saturday, 7pm
O2 Academy, Birmingham
Kent punk duo Isaac Holman and Laurie Vincent bring their fearsome live show to the Second City to perform songs from their new album.
See **academymusicgroup.com/o2academybirmingham**

PiL

Today, 7pm
O2 Institute, Birmingham
After kick-starting punk with The Sex Pistols, John Lydon went on to pioneer a unique sound with Public Image Ltd, here supported by Dreadzone.
See **www.academymusicgroup.com/o2institutebirmingham**

Roadstars

Tuesday, 7.30pm
Robin 2, Bilston
The Roadstars tour brings a blues rock triple bill featuring Nashville power trio Simo (guitarist JD Simo pictured), Oxford teen guitar sensation Aaron Keylock plus Federal Charm.
See **therobin.co.uk**

JAZZ, SOUL, BLUES, MOTOWN & REGGAE

Urban Intro
Tonight - tomorrow, £5 - £10
The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU.
Call 0121 200 3030

Walsall Jazz Orchestra
Mon,
Forest Arts Centre, Walsall, WS3 1AG.
Call 01922 654555

Jazz Tuesdays
Tue,
Spotted Dog, Digbeth, Birmingham, B12 0NH.
Call 0121 772 3822

The Chase Jazzmen
Tue, 8pm - 10.30pm
The Boycott Arms, Claverley, Wolverhampton, WV5 7DH.
Call 01746 710479

Johnny2bad (A tribute to UB40)
Thu,
The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU.
Call 0121 200 3030

ROCK & METAL

Black Sabbath Tribute: Children Of The Gravy + special guests Tyrannosaurus Nebulous
Tonight, £6
The RoadHouse Birmingham, Lifford Lane, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Too REX – UK's Marc Bolan/T.Rex Tribute
Tomorrow,
The RoadHouse Birmingham, Lifford Lane, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Gin Annie Band
Tomorrow, £6 - £7.50
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Queen Extravaganza
Tomorrow,
Symphony Hall, The International Convention Centre, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

The Vapors + The Circles
Tomorrow,
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.
Call 01902 552122

Pete Wylie & The Mighty WAH!
Tomorrow,
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Cabbage + Release + Broken Flags
Tomorrow, £6
The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1DR. Call 01782 214991

Queen – Supreme Queen
Tomorrow, £9
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN.
Call 01384 397 177 or 07986 577 661

Army Of Bones
Sun,
The Asylum, Birmingham, B19 3LS.
Call 0121 233 1109

Jimmy Eat World
Sun,
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

The Solid Gold Rock n Roll Show
Sun,
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011
and
Thurs,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 42 92 12

Honeyblood + Pins + Fears Chella
Mon, £10
The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1DR.
Call 01782 214991

Joe Brown Solo Show – 'Just Joe' + special guest Henry Gross
Tue - Wed,
Solihull Arts Complex, Central Library, Touchwood, B91 3RG.
Call 0121 704 6962

Elvis – In Concert – Live On Screen
Tue,
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT.
Call 0121 780 4141

Martin Turner ex-Wishbone Ash
Tue, £17.50
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.
Call 01527 871580

The Illegal Eagles
Wed, £21
Oakengates Theatre, Telford, TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Terrorvision
Wed,
Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, WV1 1RQ. Call 01902 552122

Rumours of Fleetwood Mac 'Hits to Blues Tour'
Wed, £27.44 - £38.64
Malvern Theatres, WR14 3HB.
Call 01684 892277

POP

Jess Glynne
Tonight,
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Simply Red
Sun
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT.
Call 0121 780 4141

That'll Be The Day: Christmas Show
Sun, £22 - £26
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

David Essex
Thu,
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1AP.
Call 0844 871 7649

CLASSICAL

Organ Proms
Tomorrow,
Victoria Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD.
Call 0844 871 7649

In Paradisum: Requiems by Fauré and Duruflé
Tomorrow,
Ladywood ARC, St John's and St Peter's Church, Birmingham, B16 8TF.
See **https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/event/EHHMKL**

COUNTRY, FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Chris Bannister performs The Music of John Denver
Tomorrow, £12.50 - £15
Huntingdon Hall, CrownGate Shopping Centre, Worcester, WR1 3LD.
Call 01905 611427

Traditional Music Session
Sun,
The Prince of Wales Moseley, Birmingham, B13 8EE.
Call 0121 4494198

Peter Knight's Gigspanner
Wed, £17
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.
Call 01527 871580

Folk & Roots Club
Thu, Free
The RoadHouse Birmingham, Lifford Lane, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

COMEDY

Marcus Brigstocke: Why The Long Face?
Tonight, £16
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.
Call 01527 871580

Jerry Sadowitz. Comedian, Magician, Psychopath! 2016
Tonight,
The Crescent Theatre, Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B16 8AE. Call 0121 643 5858

Andrew Lawrence: The Hate Speech Tour
Tonight, £15
Huntingdon Hall, CrownGate Shopping Centre, Worcester, WR1 3LD. Call 01905 611427

White Yardies' First One Man Show: Straight Outta Jamaica
Tomorrow,
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Nish Kumar
Thu,
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.
Call 01902 552122

THEATRE

The Commitments
Tonight - tomorrow,
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1AP. Call 0844 871 7649

A Christmas Carol – Junior Production 2016
Tonight,
Ruddock Performing Arts Centre, King Edward's School, Birmingham, B15 2UA.
Call 0121 472 9585

Looking For John
Tonight - tomorrow, £10 - £13.50
Birmingham REP, Library of Birmingham, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

The Full Monty
Tonight - tomorrow,
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

Legally Blonde The Musical
Tomorrow, £13 - £15
Mitchell Arts Centre, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 4HG.
Call 01782 409307

Shakespeare, His Wife and The Dog
Mon - Wed, £10 - £13.50
Birmingham REP, Library of Birmingham, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Our House
Tue - Thu,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 42 92 12

Austentatious
Thu,
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.
Call 01527 871580

Relatively Speaking
Tomorrow - Thu,
The Crescent Theatre, Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B16 8AE. Call 0121 643 5858

George's Marvellous Medicine
Tue - Thu, £21
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Behind Bars: Does Prison Work?
Thu,
Birmingham REP, Library of Birmingham, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

ARTS & CULTURE

Ballet Black: Triple Bill featuring Storyville
Tonight,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

An Introduction to Elgar
Today, £18.95
Elgar Birthplace Museum, Lower Broadheath, Worcester, WR2 6RH.
Call 01905 333 224

Chris Salmon ARBSA
Tomorrow,
RBSA Gallery, Birmingham, B3 1SA.
Call 0121 236 4353

MISC. EVENTS

The Spanish Riding School of Vienna
Tonight - Sun,
Barclaycard Arena, Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B1 2AA.
Call 0121 780 4141

Music and Dance from Around the World
Tomorrow, £5 - £10
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

The greatest adventure: Love in the time of Tinder
Globe at Hay,
Hay-on-Wye,
Hereford, HR3 5BG.
Call 01497 821762

Street Dance Telford
Sun,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford, TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

American Style Wrestling
Sun, £5
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN.
Call 01384 397 177 or 07986 577 661

Family fun at Sarehole Mill, Birmingham with live music, streetfood, food, craft market and beer
Sun,
Sarehole Mill, Birmingham, B13 0BD. Call 0121 348 8160

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Don't be chicken at marvellous play

A scene from George's Marvellous Medicine by Road Dahl being performed by The Birmingham Stage Company

A STAGE version of George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl is coming to delight family audiences at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from Tuesday (November 22) to December 3.

First published in 1981 George's Marvellous Medicine is one of Dahl's funniest stories, all about a young boy who makes a marvellous new medicine to cure his grandmother of her terrifying temper. But when his grandmother drinks his special potion the results are explosive!

Since 1992 The Birmingham Stage Company have produced more Dahl shows than any other company. Recent hits have also included Horrible Histories and the world premiere of Gangsta Granny by David Walliams.

George's Marvellous Medicine is adapted by David Wood, the UK's leading children's playwright. Ed Thorpe is in the title role with the part of Granny played by Deborah Vale whose twin sister, Tessa will play her 'daughter', George's Mum. Other roles are taken by Tom Eyklehof (as a feisty chicken) and Richard Mullins (Dad). Phil Clark directs.

BSC founder Neal Foster said: "We are delighted to be celebrating the centenary of Roald Dahl's birth with this special production." For tickets call 0844 871 3011 or visit atgtickets.com/Birmingham

Laura lives the dream

BIRMINGHAM supply teacher-turned-soul star Laura Mvula grew up in the suburbs of Selly Park and Kings Heath before her debut album Sing To The Moon catapulted her to fame.

She won two MOBO Awards, an Urban Music Award and was nominated for three BRITs, a Q Award and an Ivor Novello. It's an impressive haul for a humble, feet-on-the-ground performer, who will returns to her home city on Saturday to headline the O2 Institute.

In the summer Laura released her second album The Dreaming Room, played at Glastonbury and V Festivals and took part in the David Bowie Prom at London's Albert Hall.

She was classically trained at Birmingham Conservatoire and had little time to adjust to her new-found success and the fame it has brought.

"I'm not sure how natural a thing it is to exist so publicly as a human," she says.

Laura made her new record while experiencing a dark time of divorce and anxiety but says the process has helped her to grow as a person.

"Before, everything felt so ultimate to me. I've grown up a little bit, and by taking the music more seriously I take myself a bit less seriously, which is helpful."

The foundation song for her new album is the ballad Show Me Love.

"It's become the cornerstone of the record. There's an old church song we used to sing at funerals: It is Well With My Soul. When I listen to this music I feel whole. I feel so at home in myself."

Venues turn the clock back to 1979

BIG names from the New Wave and punk era have gigs coming up this weekend. John Lydon (formerly Johnny Rotten) brings PiL to the O2 Institute in Digbeth on Friday (November 18).

Liverpudlian rock icon Pete 'The Story of the Blues' Wylie brings his Mighty WAH! to the O2 Academy 3 venue on Saturday. Wylie recently released his first new album in 16 years, entitled Pete Sounds!

The Vapors, who had a hit with Turning Japanese in 1980, have reformed and have a gig at The Slade Rooms in Wolverhampton on Saturday. Support comes from Wolverhampton '70s Mod Revival outfit The Circles.

Rep homage to a gay sporting icon

IN 1976 19 million watched Birmingham skater John Curry win Olympic gold for Britain in the men's figure skating at Innsbruck. He was BBC Sports Personality of the Year.

But unlike some Olympic heroes, Curry seems to have slipped out of the public consciousness since his AIDs-related death in 1994, at the age of 44. Now actor and writer Tony Timberlake aims to revive the reputation of the 'Nureyev of the Ice', a gay sporting icon, in his one-man show at Birmingham Rep's The Door venue, Looking For John, which opened last night (Wednesday) and continues until Saturday.

Getting heavy – we're ready to rock

IT'S a great week ahead for rockers with Kentucky's Black Stone Cherry in action at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Tuesday and then Yorkshire's reformed Terrorvision, fronted by Tony Wright, at the Wulfrun Hall on Wednesday.

Roger Taylor's official Queen Extravaganza, featuring Canadian singer Marc Martel in a line-up hand picked by Taylor and Brian May, has sold out Birmingham's Symphony Hall on Saturday night. That's the same night Irish rockers The Answer have filled the O2 Academy 2 and Chicago's SOiL play the O2 Institute. Aussies Airbourne play the Institute on Tuesday.

Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, November 17, 2016

CHOICE

Michael McIntyre

Michael McIntyre's Big Show (BBC1, 8.10pm)
New series. The lively comedian's family entertainment series returns, as Michael invites more stars to perform in front of a live audience at London's Theatre Royal on Drury Lane. For this first edition, chart-topping, Grammy-nominated singer Ellie Goulding performs, and the cast of Andrew Lloyd Webber's new West End production School of Rock also take to the stage. An unsuspecting member of the public is dragged into the limelight when they become the Unexpected Star of the Show, and Michael gets up to more mischief when Olly Murs hands over his smartphone in Celebrity Send to All.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Live International Rugby Union. Wales v Japan (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.25** BBC News. **5.35** Regional Programme. **5.45** Children in Need – The Best Bits.

6.55 Strictly Come Dancing. Tess Daly, Claudia Winkleman and the Strictly entourage head to Blackpool's world-famous Tower Ballroom, the spiritual home of dancing, for this week's edition. Over the years its elegant surroundings have been host to thousands of amateur and professional dancers – and tonight the tradition continues as the celebrity hoofers and their partners battle to get their names at the top of the leaderboard and avoid the fate of last week's eliminated couple. As they perform a mixture of routines, they'll be hoping to impress judges Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell, but they'll also need viewers' votes to keep them out of tomorrow's dance-off.

8.10 Michael McIntyre's Big Show. New series. The lively comedian's family entertainment series returns, as Michael invites more stars to perform in front of a live audience at London's Theatre Royal on Drury Lane. For this first edition, chart-topping, Grammy-nominated singer Ellie Goulding performs, and the cast of Andrew Lloyd Webber's new West End production School of Rock also take to the stage.

9.10 Casualty. Connie throws herself into her work to avoid contemplating the seriousness of Grace's condition, as the consultants agree to let her go home.

10.00 The National Lottery Live. The all-important winning Lotto and Thunderball numbers are revealed, as Alexander Armstrong joins Kate Garraway to do the honours and presses the button.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest matches; National Lottery Update.

12.00 Asian Provocateur: Mum's American Dream. **12.30** The NFL Show. **1.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.35 Film: The Tuttles of Tahiti. (1942) **8.05 Film:** Letter from an Unknown Woman. (1948) **9.30** Joan Fontaine: Talking Pictures. (R) **10.00** Secret Britain. (R) **11.00** Natural World. (R) **12.00** The Good Cook. (R) **12.30** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **1.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **2.00** Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals. **4.30** Live International Rugby Union. Scotland v Argentina (Kick-off 5.00pm).

7.10 International Rugby Union. England v Fiji. Lee McKenzie presents highlights of the autumn international at Twickenham, where the hosts were trying to maintain their winning record over the Pacific Islanders. Eddie Jones' side suffered a number of injury withdrawals prior to this spate of matches, so Fiji may well have seen this as an ideal opportunity to claim a first win in seven attempts against England.

8.10 Coastal Path. Explorer Paul Rose takes in the North Cornish coast, touring Tintagel Castle, experiencing the hustle and bustle of Padstow's 'Obby 'Oss festival, and visiting St Ives.

8.40 Dad's Army. Mainwaring and the platoon are assigned to guard a vital telephone line through the night, but wake to find an unexploded bomb caught in the wires. (R)

9.10 Sold! Inside the World's Biggest Auction House. Two-part documentary going behind the scenes at Christies, as the renowned London-based auction house marks its 250th anniversary. Charting a year in the life of the international institution, cameras record the highs and lows of life in the art business, from London to Dubai, via Hong Kong and New York.

10.10 Artsnight: What Has the Turner Prize Ever Done for Us? Waldemar Januszczak looks back over the past three decades since the establishment of the Turner Prize, as he explores the award's relevance to the arts in contemporary Britain.

10.45 Film: Boyz N the Hood. (1991) A teenager growing up in South Central Los Angeles with a domineering father struggles to resist the temptations of crime. Drama, with Cuba Gooding Jr.

12.30 Film: Dirty Pretty Things. (2002) **2.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Sooty. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Oddbods. (R) **7.25** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.30** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Looped. **8.30** Scrambled!: Be Cool, Scooby-Doo! **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** Wild Australia with Ray Mears. (R) **11.50** Judge Rinder. (R) **12.50** ITV News; Weather. **1.00** Cash Trapped. (R) **1.55** This Time Next Year. (R) **2.55** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **4.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. **4.25** The Chase. (R) **5.30** Regional Programme; Weather.**5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. Marco Pierre White, Brooke Vincent, and Carl Fogarty take part in the arcade-style game show.

7.00 Meet the Parents. Dating show, hosted by Holly Willoughby, which puts the love lives of singletons in the hands of the people they know best – their mum and dad.

8.00 The X Factor. The live show phase continues, as the remaining contestants endure another round of tense performances, in which any mistake could cost them their place among the line-up. With November well and truly past the halfway point, and December on the horizon, thoughts will likely be dwelling on the imminent finals, which will decide whether one of the would-be stars will achieve their moment in the spotlight. As ever, Louis Walsh, Sharon Osbourne, Nicole Scherzinger and Simon Cowell take their seats at the judges desks, and Dermot O'Leary is on hand to offer moral support to the acts following their nerve-racking turns on the stage.

9.25 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present the celebrity challenge.

10.25 ITV News; Weather.

10.40 Film: American Gangster. (2007) Fact-based crime drama about 1970s drug kingpin Frank Lucas and the cop who tried to bring him down in the face of police corruption. Starring Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe.

1.30 Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Gillette World Sport. **6.35** Motorbike Racing: Sunflower Trophy 2016. **7.35** Frasier. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. **11.00** The Simpsons. (R) **11.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Deal or No Deal. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Haydock Park and Ascot. **4.00** Jamie's Super Food. (R) **4.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.35** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 China: Between Clouds and Dreams. A courageous young mother finds out that a local factory has been releasing poisonous hydrogen cyanide, and four young journalists enter a competition to highlight the plight of the endangered spoon-billed sandpiper. On the Tibetan Plateau, novice monk Gama finds out how a huge open mine the size of the City of London threatens to contaminate China's Yellow River.

8.00 Britain at Low Tide. New series. Tori Herridge and Alex Langlands set out to document Britain's industrial and natural maritime history, using state-of-the-art technology to comb the nation's exposed coastlines during times of low tide. They first head out to the Northumbrian coastline, to investigate the tragic story of a French fishing trawler that was wrecked off shore in 1913.

9.00 Film: A Good Day to Die Hard. (2013) John McClane goes to Russia having received word that his estranged son Jack is in trouble with the law. He is surprised to discover Jack is secretly a CIA agent, and father and son join forces to take on the Russian Mob, who are engaged in a plot to steal nuclear weapons. Action adventure sequel, starring Bruce Willis, Jai Courtney and Mary Elizabeth Winstead.

11.00 The Rolling Stones: Ole Ole Ole! A Trip Across Latin America. Documentary following the Rolling Stones' tour in early 2016 through 10 Latin American cities, with live performances, intimate stories and personal insights into their tour life.

12.30 Film: Side Effects. (2013) **2.20** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.30** Phil: Secret Agent Down Under. (R) **5.25** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.10** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.45** House Doctor. (R) **11.45 Film:** Married by Christmas. (2016) **1.30 Film:** Christmas Child. (2004) Premiere. Festive drama, starring William R Moses. **3.25 Film:** Christmas in Conway. (2013) Festive romantic drama, starring Andy Garcia. **5.20 Film:** The Christmas Spirit. (2013) Fantasy, starring Nicollette Sheridan.

7.10 NCIS. The team gets close to tracking down Paloma Reynosa, while the Mexican drug kingpin's brother tries to secure a deal involving her extradition. (R)

8.00 NCIS: New Orleans. Danielle Jarrett, a naval chef on shore leave, is severely injured by an explosion at her family's 100-year-old restaurant in New Orleans' French Quarter. The team quickly establishes the cause of the blast was a bomb, and discovers Danielle herself was the target of the attack. However, she is reluctant to help in the investigation, in order to protect a family secret. Meanwhile, in Washington, Brody's mission to identify the source of the leak that scuppered General Matthews' career is put to a halt by the FBI – until a charming Homeland Security agent saves her from interrogation and offers to share his resources. Naval crime drama, starring Zoe McLellan.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship. George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games, including Derby County v Rotherham United at iPro Stadium, and Ipswich Town v Nottingham Forest.

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush. George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce all the goals from the games in Leagues One and Two, including Bolton Wanderers v Millwall.

10.30 That's So 1982. A look at 1982, using news, pop and TV archive clips. It was the year of the Falklands War, Prince William's birth, the launch of Channel 4, and ET: The Extra-Terrestrial. (R)

11.30 Impractical Jokers UK. David, Matt, Lee and Paul play a round of "Touch the Stranger".

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10 Film:** National Security. (2003) **4.40** Access. **4.50** House Doctor. (R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 India's Frontier Railways **8.00** Timeshift: Penny Blacks & Twopenny Blues: How Britain Got Stuck on Stamps **9.00** Deep Water **10.45** The Undiscovered Peter Cook **11.45** Neil Diamond: Electric Prom **12.50** Sings Neil Diamond **1.20** Top of the Pops: 1982 **1.55** John Denver: Country Boy **2.55** Country at the BBC **3.55** Close

ITV2
1.30 Film: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004) **2.30** FYI Daily **2.35 Film:** The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004) **3.10 Film:** Beethoven's 2nd (1993) **4.10** FYI Daily **4.15 Film:** Beethoven's 2nd (1993) **5.00** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **6.30 Film:** Jack and Jill (2011) **7.30** FYI Daily **7.35 Film:** Jack and Jill (2011) **8.25** Scorpion **9.25** The Xtra Factor **9.55** Family Guy **10.25** I'm a Celebrity: Extra Camp **11.25** Family Guy **12.25** American Dad!

ITV3
11.20 FYI Daily **11.25 Film:** Black Beauty (1994) **12.05 Film:** Columbo: A Deadly State of Mind (1975) **1.45 Film:** The Queen (2006) **2.40** FYI Daily **2.45 Film:** The Queen (2006) **3.50** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.55** A Touch of Frost **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** Lewis **1.00** Wycliffe

ITV4
1.20 Film: The Man from the Alamo (1953) **2.20** FYI Daily **2.25 Film:** The Man from the Alamo (1953) **3.00 Film:** Every Which Way But Loose (1978) **4.00** FYI Daily **4.05 Film:** Every Which Way But Loose (1978) **5.15** Fishing Impossible **6.15** Storage Wars **7.15 Film:** The Scorpion King (2002) **8.15** FYI Daily **8.20 Film:** The Scorpion King (2002) **9.00 Film:** Waterworld (1995) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05 Film:** Waterworld (1995) **11.35 Film:** First Blood (1982) **12.35** FYI Daily **12.40 Film:** First Blood (1982) **1.40** Car Crash Global

E4
2.30 Film: Scrooged (1988) **4.30** Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Rise of the Planet of the Apes (2011) **10.00** Gogglebox **11.05** Tattoo Fixers **12.10** Rude Tube **1.20** The Inbetweeners **2.25** Body Fixers **3.20** New Girl **4.00** The Mindy Project **4.45** Revenge

Film4
11.00 Winchester '73 (1950) **1.00** ParaNorman (2012) **2.50** Short Circuit 2 (1988) **5.05** Big (1988) **7.10** Just Married (2003) **9.00** Super 8 (2011) **11.15** I, Frankenstein (2014) **1.00** The Raid (2011) **3.10** Close

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CHOICE

Freddie Mercury

The Freddie Mercury Story: Who Wants to Live Forever? (Channel 5, 9pm)
Documentary made to mark the 25th anniversary of the Queen frontman's death, which explores two of the most important years in his life, from the band's iconic performance at the Live Aid concert in 1985 to his diagnosis with Aids in 1987. The programme examines his struggle to keep his private life out of the tabloids and to continue recording music in the face of his failing health. Featuring contributions from family and friends, including chauffeur and bodyguard Terry Giddings, who shares his account of the final years for the first time.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.15** BBC News; Weather. **1.30** Songs of Praise. **2.05** Live Four Nations Rugby League. The final (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.45** Planet Earth II. (R) **5.45** BBC News.

6.05 Regional Programme.

6.15 Countryfile. Matt Baker meets young RSPB rangers in West Yorkshire, while Anita Rani talks to a local author inspired by the landscape and finds out about an award-winning halloumi cheese producer from Syria. Naomi Wilkinson discovers the challenges facing the fire brigade at Ogden Water, Adam Henson celebrates English wine, and Tom Heap reports on how sheep farming may soon be impossible in some parts of Britain.

7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present the results of last night's show from the Blackpool Tower Ballroom. Featuring performances from Rick Astley and Simple Minds.

8.00 Planet Earth II. Animals that live in jungles, including creatures that glow in the dark which have never been captured on film before, as well as freshwater dolphins and the largest living lemur.

9.00 My Mother and Other Strangers. Francis and Seamie get mixed up in eel-poaching when they join the Hanlons on a supposed fishing trip, and Michael's cold behaviour pushes Rose towards Dreyfuss.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman presents highlights of the sole Premier League encounter of the day.

11.15 Sunny D. New series. Comedy, written by and starring Dane Baptiste as a frustrated 29-year-old still living with his parents. Dane dreads a party to celebrate his dad's 65th birthday.

11.35 Getting High for God? Part one of two. Mawaan Rizwan investigates the use of hallucinogenic by certain religions, beginning by travelling to Utah to spend time with the Oklevueha Native American Church.

12.05 Film: Once. (2006) **1.30** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.35** BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.00** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **7.45** Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **8.15** Carol Klein's Plant Odysseys. **8.45** Countryfile: A Remembrance Sunday Special. (R) **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** The Good Cook. (R) **11.45** Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** International Rugby Union. (R) **2.00 Film:** Dial M for Murder. (1954) **3.45** Escape to the Continent. (R) **4.45** Heir Hunters. (R) **5.15** Flog It! (R)

6.00 Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals. Sue Barker presents coverage of the final at the O2 in London, where the showpiece event brings a conclusion to the ATP Tour for another season. Novak Djokovic continued his dominance over the men's game last year by securing this title with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Roger Federer, giving him a fifth victory overall and a fourth in succession. In fact, since 2003, only two men other than Djokovic and Federer have won this tournament, those being David Nalbandian in 2005, and Nikolay Davydenko in 2009.

9.00 Life and Death the Pentecostal Way. Documentary exploring Britain's fastest-growing Christian denomination, following the congregation and staff at one of the country's oldest black-majority Pentecostal churches.

10.00 Black Is the New Black. Black British people who have succeeded in their chosen field discuss the challenges they and others have had to overcome, including tokenism, self-censorship and lack of capital.

10.30 Frankie Boyle's US Election Autopsy. The comedian shares his thoughts on the US presidential election from London's Asylum Chapel.

11.10 QI XL. Sandi Toksvig invites Jason Manford, Sara Pascoe, Jeremy Clarkson and Alan Davies to answer questions on the subject of 'noble rot' in an extended edition of the panel show.

11.55 Film: 8 Minutes Idle. (2012) A lazy call centre employee is forced to secretly live in the office when his parents throw him out of the family home. Comedy, starring Tom Hughes and Antonia Thomas.

1.15 Sign Zone: Countryfile: A Remembrance Sunday Special. (R) **2.15** Holby City. (R) **3.15** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Sooty. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories. (R) **7.00** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Oddbods. (R) **7.25** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.30** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Looped. **8.30** Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Bear Grylls Survival School. **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** Gino's Italian Escape: Hidden Italy. (R) **11.25** Let's Do Christmas with Gino & Mel. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** The Chase. (R) **1.35** The X Factor. (R) **3.00** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.00** Tipping Point. (R)

6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 Off Their Rockers. Louis Walsh is the victim of a prank when he finds something suspicious in his suitcase. Plus, Joan gets help with her Tinder profile and Tony gets buried on the beach.

7.00 The Next Great Magician. Stephen Mulhern and Rochelle Humes introduce another batch of acclaimed magic acts, with Illusionist Josephine Lee setting up an unsuspecting family and Laura London sharing a drink with some of the Coronation Street cast in the Rovers Return. Paul Vu displays his amazing Rubik's cube skills, Rob Zabrecky freaks out Jaymi Hensley, Jimmy Bullard and Michelle Heaton at a haunted house, and South Korea's Seol Park demonstrates his take on the traditional cups and balls trick.

8.00 The X Factor. Dermot O'Leary presents the results of last night's show, followed by a sing-off to determine which of the lowest scoring acts will be the next to leave the competition.

9.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present the celebrity challenge, as the famous faces continue their ordeal in the Australian jungle.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 Peston on Sunday. (R)

11.20 Premiership Rugby Union. Mark Durden-Smith and David Flatman present.

12.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** Snowdonia Triathlon Festival. **7.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **7.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **7.55 Film:** Inspector Gadget. (1999) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** The Simpsons. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55 Film:** The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader. (2010) Fantasy adventure, with Georgie Henley and Skandar Keynes. **5.05 Film:** The Aristocats. (1970)

6.35 Channel 4 News.

7.00 0 to 60mph: Britain's Fastest Kids. Documentary about three children on the professional go-kart racing circuit and the parents who support them through gruelling training and the pursuit of sponsorship deals as they work towards becoming Formula 1 drivers when they grow up. While two families are able to spend large sums of money on their children's ambitions, 10-year-old Fenn Chapman, who has found the sport useful in managing his autism, is unable to join a professional team and faces competitors with much higher budgets.

8.00 The Lost Lotus: Restoring a Race Car. Philip Glenister and Ant Anstead restore a 1950s Lotus Elite that was designed and built by Formula 1 engineer Colin Chapman as a prototype for the production models that followed. They plan to take it on to the track at Silverstone for the biggest classic car event of the year – even though this risks the vehicle being damaged before it can be sold at auction.

9.00 Humans. Mia and Ed's secret is discovered, Hester's influence creates conflict between Leo and Max, and the outcome of the trial looks bleak for Niska, until Laura calls a surprise witness.

10.00 Gogglebox. (R)

11.05 Film: Tower Heist. (2011) The manager of an apartment complex recruits a thief to steal back his friends' pension fund from a Wall Street fraudster. Crime comedy, starring Ben Stiller.

1.05 The Last Leg. (R) **2.00** Flying to the Ends of the Earth. (R) **2.55** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **3.50** Location, Location, Location. (R) **4.45** The Common Denominator. (R) **5.10** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Milkshake! Monkey. **6.05** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **6.10** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.25** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.40** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.50** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.00** Seaside Antics. (R) **7.05** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.20** Pip Ahoy! (R) **7.30** Little Princess. (R) **7.45** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.30** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **8.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.05** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.25** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.30** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** The Gadget Show. (R) **1.00 Film:** The Perfect Holiday. (2007) **2.50 Film:** Window Wonderland. (2013) Premiere. **4.30 Film:** A Puppy for Christmas. (2016) Premiere. Festive romantic comedy, starring Cindy Busby.

6.20 Film: The Christmas Note. (2015) Premiere. After moving back home before Christmas, a disillusioned woman finds a new purpose when she helps her neighbour look for a missing sibling. Drama, with Jamie-Lynn Sigler. Includes 5 News at 7.10pm.

8.00 Ice Road Truckers. A fight for survival begins when two rival companies pull a cat train over the frozen Hudson Bay. Disaster strikes as the ice cracks under the heavy load.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 The Freddie Mercury Story: Who Wants to Live Forever? Documentary made to mark the 25th anniversary of the Queen frontman's death, which explores two of the most important years in his life, from the band's iconic performance at the Live Aid concert in 1985 to his diagnosis with Aids in 1987. The programme examines his struggle to keep his private life out of the tabloids and to continue recording music in the face of his failing health.

11.05 20 Moments That Rocked Pop. Countdown of significant performers, songs or occasions that impacted the genre, including 1985's global Live Aid event, which redefined how society donated to charity. (R)

12.35 That's So 1985. (R) **1.30** SuperCasino. **3.10** Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild. (R) **4.00** Tattoo Disasters UK. (R) **4.50** House Doctor. (R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car.

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Yehudi Menuhin at the BBC **8.00** Young, Gifted and Classical: The Making of a Maestro **9.00** Henry VIII's Enforcer: The Rise and Fall of Thomas Cromwell **10.00** Storyville: Executed by ISIS – The James Foley Story **11.25** Nature's Wonderlands: Islands of Evolution **12.25** Impact! A Horizon Guide to Plane Crashes **1.25** Beautiful Equations **2.25** Wild Burma: Nature's Lost Kingdom

ITV2

12.45 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **1.45 Film:** Step Up 3 (2010) **2.45** FYI Daily **2.50 Film:** Step Up 3 (2010) **4.00 Film:** Yogi Bear (2010) **5.00** FYI Daily **5.05 Film:** Yogi Bear (2010) **5.35** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **6.40 Film:** The Mummy (1999) **7.40** FYI Daily **7.45 Film:** The Mummy (1999) **9.00** The Xtra Factor Live **10.00** I'm a Celebrity: Extra Camp **11.00** Family Guy **12.25** American Dad! **1.25** The Cleveland Show **2.15** The Hot Desk: Vicky Pattison

ITV3

12.25 A Touch of Frost **2.25 Film:** Columbo: Playback (1975) **4.00 Film:** Forever Young (1992) **5.00** FYI Daily **5.05 Film:** Forever Young (1992) **6.05** Doc Martin **8.00** Lewis **10.00** A Mother's Son **12.05** Agatha Christie's Marple **2.00** May the Best House Win **3.45** Murder, She Wrote **4.35** Wycliffe **5.30** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

1.00 Pawn Stars **3.55 Film:** Every Which Way But Loose (1978) **4.55** FYI Daily **5.00 Film:** Every Which Way But Loose (1978) **6.10 Film:** The Scorpion King (2002) **7.10** FYI Daily **7.15 Film:** The Scorpion King (2002) **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** The Keeper (2009) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10 Film:** The Keeper (2009) **11.00 Film:** Ransom (1996) **12.00** FYI Daily **12.05 Film:** Ransom (1996) **1.20** Fishing Impossible **2.25** The Car Chasers

E4

1.00 Film: The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement (2004) **3.15** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **3.30** The Goldbergs **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Unknown (2011) **11.20** Tattoo Fixers on Holiday **12.25** The Inbetweeners **1.35** Crazyhead **2.40** New Girl **3.25** Hollyoaks

Film4

11.00 The Colditz Story (1954) **1.00** Dear John (2010) **3.10** Dr Seuss' The Lorax (2012) **4.50** The Hound of the Baskervilles (1959) **6.35** Snow White & the Huntsman (2012) **9.00** 47 Ronin (2013) **11.15** Machete Kills (2013) **1.25** Micmacs (2009) **3.35** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
From Hell, Channel 5, 11.05pm
A detective tries to use his opium-triggered visions to put an end to Jack the Ripper's reign of terror over 19th-century London. But in the course of his investigation, he uncovers a sinister conspiracy that reaches the highest levels of Victorian society. Mystery thriller, based on Alan Moore's comic book series, starring Johnny Depp, Heather Graham, Ian Holm and Robbie Coltrane. (2001)

TUESDAY
Little Voice, BBC1, 11.50pm
A painfully shy woman has a talent for impersonating famous performers including Shirley Bassey, Marilyn Monroe and Judy Garland. She is spotted by a greedy promoter who instinctively realises her considerable money-spinning potential, but the shrinking violet proves reluctant to step into the limelight. Comedy drama, with Jane Horrocks, Michael Caine, Brenda Blethyn, Ewan McGregor and Jim Broadbent. (1998)

The Box, Wednesday, BBC1, 11.45pm

WEDNESDAY
The Box, BBC1, 11.45pm
A couple are given a mysterious wooden box with a button on it and told that if they press it, they will be given a million dollars but that someone somewhere in the world will die. After pressing the button, they fear they may be the next victim when the box is passed on, and try to find out how and why this is happening. Sci-fi thriller, with Cameron Diaz. (2009)

THURSDAY
The Christmas Note, Channel 5, 3.15pm
After moving back home just before Christmas, a disillusioned woman finds a new purpose when she helps her neighbour look for a missing sibling. Drama based on the novel by Donna VanLiere, starring Jamie-Lynn Sigler and Greg Vaughan. (2015)

FRIDAY
Carry On at Your Convenience, ITV, 11.15pm
Production at toilet manufacturers WC Boggs is brought to a halt when an over-eager trade union representative calls a strike. However, worker unrest is quickly quelled by a jolly trip to the seaside. Comedy, starring Sid James. (1971)

PICK OF THE WEEK

Danny's family tree is far from a Dyer affair

An "extraordinary range of incredible stories". The words of executive producer Colette Flight ahead of this 13th series of the genealogy documentary in which 10 more celebrities embark journeys of discovery deep into their families' past.

"Who Do You Think You Are? is back with another brilliant line-up of much-loved stars, uncovering hidden history by bringing their ancestors to life," she adds.

"As we follow our celebrities on their personal journey into their family trees, an extraordinary range of incredible stories are revealed, sometimes tragic, sometimes funny, but always compelling."

This new run will span almost 1000 years of history and there will heartbreak and laughter, intrigue and surprise, as each famous face discovers a cast of remarkable ancestors, including freedom fighters and criminals, war heroes and bigamists.

The series will see a fair few extraordinary firsts as it travels to new territories, exploring how our celebrities' ancestors were caught up in slavery-era Martinique, the birth of Bangladesh, the invention of the weekend, the first pineapples in Britain and the perils of life in working-class Liverpool.

Britain's Got Talent judge Amanda Holden's investigation brings to light an extraordinary Napoleonic-era cross-channel romance and the forgotten tragedy of Britain's worst ever maritime disaster.

Meanwhile, former Girls Aloud member and X Factor judge Cheryl's journey is one of equal contrasts, as she discovers the story of her long and forgotten great grandfather – a quintessential Tommy in the First World War who survived one of the conflict's key battles.

Also investigating their heritage will be film and stage star Sir Ian McKellen, news presenter Sophie Raworth, The Royle Family actor Ricky Tomlinson, Star Wars and Harry Potter actor Warwick Davis, Countrywise presenter Liz Bonnin, The Inbetweeners actor and comedian Greg Davies and Casualty actress Sunetra Sarker.

But it all begins tonight with EastEnders actor Danny Dyer.

Danny, who now lives in Debden, Epping Forest, was raised in Canning Town and began his acting career as a 16-year-old after being spotted at school and landing a role in Prime Suspect 3.

The actor then found fame in films including Football Factory and Human Traffic before presenting The Real Football Factories and Danny Dyer's Deadliest Men.

In 2013, he signed up for a long-term role as Mick Carter in EastEnders and went on to win the Serial Drama Performance award at the National Television Awards in 2015 and 2016.

When he first agreed to doing Who Do You Think You Are?, the 39-year-old said he hoped his family history will 'freak a few people out'.

However, he perhaps gets more than he bargained for on his journey.

As he traces his family from poverty and crime in the East End back through to the 11th century, Danny also discovers he has an incredible connection to nobility.

Danny Dyer features, Who Do You Think You Are?, Thursday, BBC1, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Back in Time for Brixton
BBC2, 9pm
Part one of two. The Irwins experience 50 years of black British history, discovering how post-war Caribbean immigration transformed the way of life in the UK. The first edition sees them learn what life was like for arrivals coming to Britain in the 1950s and '60s, with presenter Giles Coren and social historian Emma Dabiri introducing them to their new homes and the family sampling the food, work and entertainment of first-generation West Indian immigrants in Brixton.

TUESDAY
The Martin Lewis Money Show
ITV, 8pm
The financial journalist kicks off a new series with an hour-long special set in front of an audience at a London dockside warehouse. With the help of co-presenters Saira Khan and Ranvir Singh, he will attempt to save consumers money on their energy bills. The trio look at where to find the best deals, and how to get the right tariff so that you pay for what you actually use. Plus they share tips on making changes around your home that can save you hundreds of pounds and choosing the right energy-efficient appliances. Throughout the show, viewers are invited to get in touch via social media and email to talk about their own switching stories. As well as their in-depth guide to utility bills, the team will also be making their predictions for the upcoming Black Friday discounts.

WEDNESDAY
This Time Next Year
ITV, 8pm
Davina McCall meets Karen Jackson, a 40-year-old nurse from Brighton who aims to lose half her body weight so she can finally have IVF treatment. Elsewhere, Linda Ralph, 68, from East Sussex, is hoping to be reunited with her old friend Maria who she's not seen for 50 years after they met in teacher training college. Also on the show is 21-year-old Rhys Jones. After contracting hemiplegic encephalitis as a toddler, Rhys was told he may never walk, but as defied all expectations and was hoping to qualify for Team GB at the Rio Paralympics and win a medal. There is also a district nurse who is hoping she can lose weight and fit back into her biking leathers, and an army medic and mum of three who is undergoing a leg amputation.

The Martin Lewis Money Show, Tuesday, ITV, 8pm

THURSDAY
Close to the Enemy
BBC2, 9pm
The search for Lotte sees everyone put aside their differences, while Callum is forced to make a difficult choice between his brother and the orders from his superiors. Believing he is free to both protect and prosecute the Germans as he sees fit, he eventually brings Kathy some information about scientists who have been taken to safe houses – and the two of them work together to prevent someone of importance from leaving the country. Meanwhile, enchanting American Rachel is encouraged by her husband to get closer to Callum. Stephen Poliakoff drama, starring Jim Sturgess, Phoebe Fox and Charlotte Riley.

FRIDAY
Unreported World
Channel 4, 7.30pm
Millions of schoolgirls across Africa are being manipulated, threatened and sexually abused by those who are supposed to be looking after them - their teachers. Kiki King visits Mozambique to investigate the disturbing phenomenon known as 'sex for grades', where teachers force their female pupils to have sex with them in return for better grades – or even their deserved grades. As King discovers, the Mozambican Ministry of Education has found that 70 per cent of schoolgirls are either facing this kind of harassment or witnessing it. Last in the series.

Alan Carr's Happy Hour
Channel 4, 8pm
Friday nights with Alan Carr used to mean his talk show Chatty Man, where the celebrities could call in for a post-watershed drink and a natter. But now he's moving to the earlier time of 8pm for his brand new series, which effectively gives him the chance to organise his own club night. Although there will still be celebrity interviews, there will also be stand-up comedy, live music and variety acts, all filmed in front of a specially invited studio. Channel 4 is promising us that it's the best Friday night out you can have without leaving the house – although despite the title, it seems that earlier timeslot means that the booze probably won't be flowing quite as freely as it did on Chatty Man.

Come along to our

Winter Wedding Fair

at *Ramada Park Hall Hotel, Park Drive, Goldthorn Park, Wolverhampton WV4 5AJ*

Sunday 20th November 2016 • 11.00am - 4.00pm

The Wolverhampton Magazine's Winter Wedding Fair held at Ramada Park Hall Hotel & Spa will fill you with festive inspiration this November.

There will be over 30 exhibitors at the event to help you plan your perfect day! So don't miss out – come along and join us at our fair.

FREE ENTRY

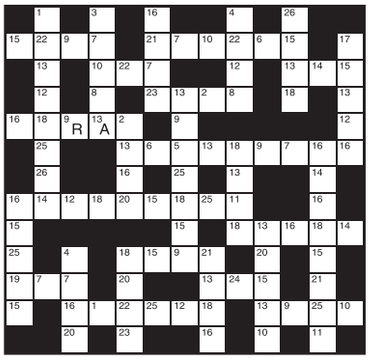
A Wolverhampton Magazine Event

Sponsored by Cousins

BRAIN GYM No.404

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9 R	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13 A	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
X	B	O	U	C	T	Y	K	F	S	G	E	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
P	I	L	D	Q	M	H	V	J	N	W	A	R

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

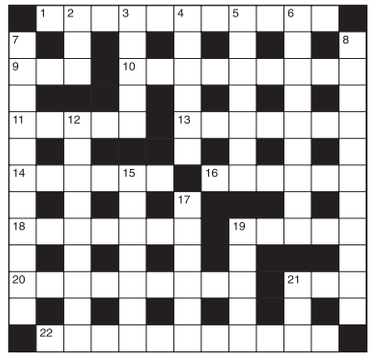
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Support for any blooming thing! (6-5)
9 & 19Dn. The power to observe is certainly embodied in the rowing crew (8)
10. Feathers correctly described in plain words (9)
11. A piece of material is left (5)
13. Wouldn't accept rubbish near the top of the dump (7)
14. Offensive encroachment in the motorway (6)
16. Broken tea-set - that's what's left! (6)
18. What drug addicts and snooker players do! (2,2,3)
19. Bundle of papers sorted out by Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force (5)
20. On the subject of observing (9)
21. Sailor seen lying on the road (3)
22. No capital can be made out of short note (5,6)

Down

2. Shelter for fish on return (3)
3. Firmly fix the western boundary (5)
4. Part of the sideboard is put up as prize (6)
5. Customs levies for restaurant charges (7)
6. Supporter is not on time to pass a bill (9)
7. Their efforts prove to be appealing, we hear! (4-7)
8. Scrutinises the class and decides on the winner (7,4)
12. Plan to put stone under rocky beds (9)
15. When father returns with unusual pearl, it's put on (7)
17. A fabric - just as you choose (2,4)
19. See 9 Across
21. An obligation to draw the match (3)



Quick Clues:

Across

1. Charitable gift (11)
9. Untruth (3)
10. Take to pieces (9)
11. Dissertation (5)
13. Strain (7)
14. Musician (6)
16. Sea god (6)
18. Aerodrome (3,4)
19. Danger (5)
20. Instantaneous (9)
21. Idiot (3)
22. Countercharge (11)

Down

2. Before (3)
3. Senior (5)
4. Property (6)
5. Coach (7)
6. Clothier (9)
7. Mania for stealing (11)
8. Nonsensical (11)
12. List of entertainments (9)
15. Calumny (7)
17. Deprive of wind (6)
19. Smarten (5)
21. Deed (3)

Sudoku

	8	2		5				6
4						9		
		1		4			5	8
	2			1			7	
3		6	4		7	8		5
	5			8				2
1	6					5		
		9			8			4
2				6		3	1	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	2	4	1	7	3	5	8	6
8	3	1	6	9	5	2	4	7
5	7	6	2	4	8	3	1	9
7	9	3	4	8	1	6	5	2
2	1	5	7	6	9	8	3	4
6	4	8	3	5	2	9	7	1
3	8	2	9	1	4	7	6	5
1	5	7	8	2	6	4	9	3
4	6	9	5	3	7	1	2	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Pupa; 3 Mortised; 9 Serious; 10 Exact; 11 Disagreement; 13 Tablet; 15 Amoral; 17 United States; 20 Alien; 21 Earache; 22 Disperse; 23 Isis. Down: 1 Postdate; 2 Paris; 4 Ousted; 5 Thermometers; 6 Stainer; 7 Duty; 8 Long sentence; 12 Plasters; 14 Bandits; 16 Adders; 18 Tacks; 19 Yard.
QUICK - Across: 1 Copy; 3 Assessed; 9 Provoke; 10 Tense; 11 Individually; 13 Untold; 15 Hasten; 17 Conservative; 20 Amble; 21 Secrete; 22 Greeting; 23 Plot. Down: 1 Captious; 2 Proud; 4 Steady; 5 Extravagance; 6 Singlet; 7 Deep; 8 Convalescent; 12 Indecent; 14 Trouble; 16 Prison; 18 Ideal; 19 Gang.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. Who wrote Catch-22 in 1961?
2. In which city did Mikhail Baryshnikov defect?
3. Who was Monty Python's animator?
4. In which TV series did Elizabeth Montgomery star?
5. What is the female equivalent of the Oedipus complex called?
6. Of which county is Lifford the county town?
7. Which film star was born Joseph Levitch?
8. To what did Nyasaland change its name in 1964?
9. Who composed In a Summer Garden in 1908?
10. Which philanthropic society was founded by US lawyer Paul Harris in 1905?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Mother Teresa; 2 Tofu; 3 Lake Garda; 4 Brandy; 5 Sahara; 6 Republican Party; 7 Pears; 8 Tomato; 9 James Clark Ross; 10 Manchester.

Niner: LIGATURES

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

12354 gives a medicine,
68971 gives a second medicine,
87964396 gives a third medicine.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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LONDON THEATRE SHOWSTOPPER WEEKEND

Choose a top West End show from our fabulous selection...

42nd Street, Aladdin, An American in Paris, Beautiful, Dreamgirls, Half a Sixpence, Jersey Boys, Les Misérables, Mamma Mia!, Matilda, Motown, The Phantom of the Opera, School of Rock, Stomp, The Girls, The Lion King, Wicked and more...!

Quote Code: HKQ059

Selected Friday departures until June 2017

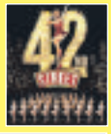
Price Includes...
✓ 2 nights at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
✓ Cat A Dress or Circle ticket up to face value £77.50 for a Friday evening performance from our fabulous selection of shows
✓ Free time in London for shopping and sightseeing
✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

3 days, by rail from £239.95pp*

View product online at www.omega-holidays.com/HKQ059

Single room supplement £100pp. Subject to availability.
*Price may vary from £239.95pp to £339.95pp dependent on choice of show, hotel and any applicable supplements.

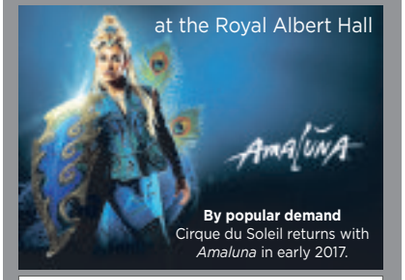
NEW SHOWS COMING INTO THE WEST END FOR 2017



SCHOOL OF ROCK

THE GIRLS is the true story of the Yorkshire CALENDAR GIRLS, a group of ordinary ladies who achieved something extraordinary. This new musical comedy has brought together the writing talents of Gary Barlow and Tim Firth who grew up in the same village in the North of England and have been friends for 25 years.

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL



By popular demand Cirque du Soleil returns with *Amaluna* in early 2017.

Selected Saturday January - February 2017

Price Includes...
✓ Overnight stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
✓ Circle ticket (face value £51.70) to see Cirque du Soleil's *Amaluna* at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday evening (upgrades available at a supplement)
✓ Free time in London
✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

2 days, by rail from £199.95pp

View product online at www.omega-holidays.com

Single room supplement £50pp. Subject to availability.

LONDON WEEKEND RAIL SPECIALS

Price Includes...
✓ 1 or 2 nights stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
✓ Free time in London for shopping and sightseeing
✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Saturday departures until August 2017

2 days, by rail from £119.95pp

View product online at www.omega-holidays.com/TGQ853

Friday departures until August 2017

3 days, by rail from £189.90pp

View product online at www.omega-holidays.com/JEE184

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SAT 8.30-16.00 SUN 10.00-16.00
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Quimper with the impressive cathedral

The beautiful village of Locronan

Teeing off for a morning's golf

The swimming pool is ideal for play or relaxing

The perfect backdrop for wedding pictures

Just the two of us – and making even more memories to treasure

Sue Attwater enjoys a visit to France

IT'S not the first time we've been to France and it most certainly won't be the last.

Years of travelling there every year when our children were growing up always brings back happy memories.

Now they are grown up with families of their own it was our turn to try out this wonderful country, just the two of us. And despite the troubles it has had to endure recently, holidaymakers should not be put off this lovely country.

We sampled the delights of driving there – no jams like our congested M6 and M5 but wide roads and no traffic queues – but much more importantly, lovely beaches and superb campsites, none more so than the Castels site we stayed at Quimper, Domaine de l'Orangerie de Lanniron.

The is a site on a stately scale and I knew as we drove down the tree-lined boulevard to the reception this was going to be good. After a quick check-in from the friendly girls, they pointed the way to our lovely lodge, which was well equipped with verandah and loungers included. The site has everything you could wish for and being a golf beginner I was thrilled to see the nine-hole course.

I get ribbed at work for mentioning the four letter word G O L F but I just have to say this was a lovely course in superb condition. I'd better leave it there! Of course for the non-golfer there are so many other facilities, a swimming pool with slides and flumes, tennis, petanque, children's facilities and entertainment and a restaurant and bar overlooking the pool where we enjoyed live music.

Class

Castels sites seem to have that extra touch of class. This historic site with its beautiful grounds and orangerie which is regularly used for wedding is outstanding. Just to walk round the gardens is enchanting. We did that on our first afternoon there and gatecrashed a wedding with the marquee down by the river – a lovely setting.

The weather was a little mixed at first but soon brightened up. The mornings there are often cooler so are ideal for sightseeing, relaxing by the pool or on the golf course later in the day.

The site is near so many lovely places to visit. Quimper itself – it is possible to walk in from the site in about 30 minutes – with its amazing cathedral; Concarneau and Beg Meil, a lovely little beach resort; and lots of towns with great markets, like Benodet and Port L'Abbe, where there are craft products on sale, some quite expensive, but there are bargains to be had. Also close by is Locronan, one of the most beautiful villages in France.

The locals are very proud of their area. When we arrived at the we were greeted in Brittany by a young man who handed out a welcome pack including area info and some local produce. A lovely gesture that made us feel right at home.

Our journey across from Plymouth to Roscoff had already set us up for a relaxing time. The overnight ferry was superb and the cabin had its own TV and en suite so you could arrive refreshed. I have never travelled overnight before and would definitely recommend it.

The service with Brittany Ferries was very efficient, on and off the boat and with no fuss, except when my husband forgot to take the alarm off our motor and had to return to the car deck.

It was a short drive from the ferry port to the site– about one a a half hours – and a lovely surprise when we got there. So thanks, France, for more happy memories of a different kind.

FACTFILE

Created in 1959 Les Castels is a collection of 38 four and five star camping sites across France and is the leading provider of glamping sites. Visit http://www.camping-castels.co.uk

The ferries were booked through www.Aferry.co.uk which features real-time comparison technology for ferries. This handy site covers more than 1,800 routes around the world from over 140 ferry companies.

Brittany Ferries operates routes from Portsmouth, Poole and Plymouth to the French ports of Le Havre, Caen, Cherbourg, St Malo and Roscoff. Fares start from £79pp each way, based on a car and two passengers. Go to brittanyferries.com or on 0330 159 7000.

theticket

PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Much-improved detached in a wonderful location

Rickstones in Fox Lane, Lower Chaddesley, Kidderminster, is a handsome detached home in a wonderful rural location that has been much improved.

It is for sale through Halls at £679,950. It has a living room and dining room, two bathrooms, a kitchen/diner, utility and cloakroom, four double bedrooms and two bathrooms, a double garage and generous gardens with attractive rural views.

Chaddesley Corbett is a most sought-after village. It has a local church, village hall, popular pubs, a well thought of primary school, as well as a doctor's surgery and the highly regarded independent Winterfold House School is just over one mile away. It is also ideally placed for commuting.

Having been extensively updated, improved and extended, this beautiful family home is set within well proportioned and substantial gardens with off road parking, a double garage and plenty of privacy and countryside views. In more detail, it is approached via a five bar timber gate onto a gravelled hard standing providing off road parking leading to the covered flagstone entrance porch and a beautifully spacious main reception hall.

This has an original quarry tiled floor and a straight flight staircase. The generous living room has a feature exposed brick recess fireplace with an original quarry tiled hearth. The separate dining rom has solid wooden flooring and an exposed brick fireplace, attractive ceiling timbers and a bay window. The dining room is perfectly situated via an obscure multi paned glass door into the kitchen. Being extended, the kitchen/diner is fitted to a high standard.

Upstairs is a spacious gallery landing with long distance views. The master bedroom has a contemporary en-suite shower room. There are three further bedrooms, each with different rural outlooks and being served by a beautiful family bathroom.

The generous lawned gardens are beautifully kept and shaped with some shrub and herbaceous borders and a wild flower garden to the side with a shed. The double garage has an electrically operated roll top door.

LOWER CHADDESLEY £679,950

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Halls
TEL: 01562 820880
EMAIL: kidderminster@hallsgb.com

KEY FEATURES

- 2 reception rooms
- 4 double bedrooms
- 2 bathroom/shower rooms
- Much improved
- Handsome detached

He's sold

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If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.

A beautifully presented and improved mews-style home

STOURBRIDGE
£144,950 <<<

Beautifully presented and expensively improved, including a refitted kitchen, this two-bedroomed mews-style home in Richardson Drive, Wollaston Park, Stourbridge, is for sale through Taylors at £144,950.

Located just off Richardson Drive itself in a modern block paved courtyard, the home is set back behind its own small frontage and has a rear garden. There is an allocated parking space beyond an archway at the top of the courtyard. An ideal first time buy, it has a reception hall with attractive oak-style laminate flooring and stairs off. The siting room has doors opening to the rear garden. The refitted kitchen has a a four burner gas hob, electric fan assisted oven with grill and canopy hood and an integrated slimline dishwasher. Upstairs are two bedrooms and a reappointed bathroom.

Contact Taylors on 01384 395555.

Four bedroomed house available to rent

WEST BROMWICH
£750 PCM

This four-bedroomed detached house in Europa Avenue, West Bromwich is available to rent through Apex Estate Agents at £750 per calender month.

With central heating and double glazing, it has a reception room, a spacious extended kitchen, a fitted upstairs bathroom and a private drive.

It is available to rent unfurnished.

In more detail the reception room features a fireplace. The good sized kitchen has wood effect unit doors, contrasting working surfaces and terracotta floor tiles and splash-back tiling and a window overlooking the rear.

The bathroom has a modern suite include a fitted modern vanity unit with the sink inset.

Contact Apex Estate Agents on 0121 532 2700.

hallsgb.com

Halls

"STONE COLLECTIVE SALE" **SALE DAY: FRIDAY 25th November 2016**

STANKLYN LANE, NR. KIDDERMINSTER, WORCS, DY10 4AR

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SALE COMMENCES AT 10:15 AM

Please call 01562 820880

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PROPERTY

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FINAL REMINDER

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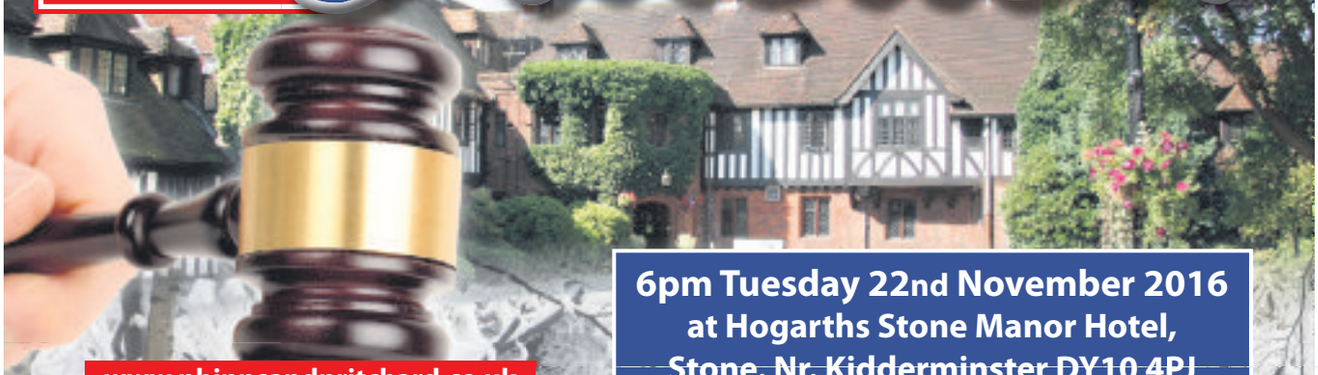
End of Year Auction



6pm Tuesday 22nd November 2016
at Hogarths Stone Manor Hotel,
Stone. Nr. Kidderminster DY10 4PJ

www.phippsandpritchard.co.uk

Hoo Road, Kidderminster DY10 1LT

A 3-bedroom traditional semi detached house requiring complete refurbishment but having huge potential and also ideal scope for substantial extension subject to requisite Consents, given over 3m/10ft of side amenity hand-in-glove with large west facing rear gardens extending to approx. 100ft in depth. Vacant possession upon completion. EPC G

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £80,000 - £110,000

Ruskin Avenue, Kidderminster DY10 3XQ

A three bedroom detached family home located in a sought after position within the popular and established Offmore Farm estate. Reception Porch. Lounge. Dining Room. Kitchen. Utility. 3 Bedrooms. Family Bathroom. Garage. Driveway. Fore and rear Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC E

KIDDERMINSTER OFFICE 01562 822244
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £125,000 - £135,000

London Road, Worcester WR5 2DJ

City Centre freehold currently let on Assured Shorthold Tenancy at £475 pcm - a one-bedroom 3-storey end terraced house in the heart of historic Worcester offering a wealth of shopping, leisure and employment opportunities! There is also a shared rear garden.
Ideal investment property and a rare opportunity in this price bracket. EPC E

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £80,000 - £90,000

Stourbridge Road, Kidderminster DY10 2QE

To be sold for the first time in almost 70 years! - a 3-bedroom 1930's detached house requiring repair and refurbishment but having immense further potential, together with good sized south-east facing rear gardens. Reception hall, bay fronted living room, kitchen, dining room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.
NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC F

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £120,000 - £140,000

Charlton Lane, Hartlebury DY11 7SD

Un-polished gem" for sale under the hammer to close an Estate! - a captivating non-listed stone faced detached country residence of real distinction with BIG potential set some 100ft back from the lane-side and sitting on ABOUT 3.4 ACRES of good level grounds with two entrances comprising gardens, a large 2 acre paddock to the west, and an assortment of agricultural barns to the east. Here is the perfect chance for your very own "grand design" in a prime rural setting surrounded by open Greenbelt countryside and yet with swift access to Worcester and the M5. EPC E

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £400,000 - £500,000

Bewdley Road, Stourport DY13 8YD

For sale to close an Estate and available for the first time in 37 years! - a 3 bedroom semi detached house on a large plot with very broad south west facing rear gardens and good potential for extension subject to requisite Consents. Reception hall with built-in pantry, bathroom, through living room, dining kitchen, 3 bedrooms, garage, vacant possession upon completion. EPC E

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £125,000 - £135,000

Childe Road, Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8PB

Pre-fabricated end terraced three bedroomed family home situated in a semi rural location close to the town centre and local amenities. Reception hall. Lounge. Kitchen. Utility. Three bedrooms. Bathroom. Separate toilet. Electric heating. Fore and rear gardens. No parking.
CASH BUYERS ONLY

KIDDERMINSTER OFFICE 01562 822244
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £95,000 - £105,000

Lea Street, Kidderminster DY10 1SW

A Victorian mid terraced house requiring refurbishment - formerly also an old shop albeit trading ceased some 30 years ago! Former retail area, cellar, living room, kitchen, ground floor bathroom, 2 bedrooms plus attic room, good sized level rear garden being fully private in that, there is no right of way across for neighbouring properties. EPC G

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £65,000 - £85,000

Lea Street, Kidderminster DY10 1SW

Ideal 'turn key' investment, now with vacant possession but previously long term let - a spacious and very well maintained Victorian mid terraced house arranged over three floors in an ultra-convenient location only half a mile from town centre itself & just seconds from the train station plus plentiful amenities along neighbouring Comberton Hill. EPC D

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £90,000 - £110,000

St. Johns Street, Bridgnorth WV15 6AG

A Grade II Listed ground floor commercial retail unit with refurbished 2 bedroom flat over the first and second floors together with rear garden.

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale, special conditions & reserve.

Guide Price £140,000 - £150,000

Land at Charlton Lane, Hartlebury Y11 7SD

A valuable parcel of good open agricultural land, fronting Charlton Lane - also having a gate to it - extending to about 11.5 acres and comprising three fields of grassland used for growing hay and the grazing of private horses.
Rare opportunity.

STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060
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Guide Price £75,000

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Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, November 17, 2016

Skoda's City slicker does the business

By James Parker

Get behind the wheel of Škoda Citigo and you've a solid, well appointed cabin that promises a solid, well appointed driving experience.

Already, you sense, there's a depth of design here missing from this car's French, Korean and Japanese rivals. Most of these feature three cylinder 1.0-litre engines that are busily revvy at best and downright noisy at worst. A configuration shared here, but delivered with a bit more finesse. Fire the engine and a more refined thrum filters out from beneath the bonnet ahead. Not refined enough, it must be said, to quite let you forget the cylindrical imbalance under the bonnet. But then the characteristic offbeat rasp isn't unpleasant and rather suits this design's rather offbeat charisma.

You'll certainly be hearing plenty of it if rapid progress is needed, for without a turbocharger to boost torque, this one needs to be revved quite a bit, peak power not arriving until 6,000rpm, only 600rpm shy of the red line. And if you're wondering quite how much power we're talking about, the answer is not a great deal in the mainstream 1.0-litre variants we're focusing on here, cars offering a choice of either 60 or 75PS outputs, with an identical 95Nm of torque either way. Most will be content with the base version, capable as it is of sixty in 14.4s on the way to 99mph, quite enough to keep up with the traffic. The performance gains offered by the 75PS variant seem relatively slight (0-60mph in 13.2s on the way to 107mph) but the unit is a little more refined.

The styling looks quite smart but forget the aesthetics: two statistics sum up the real thinking behind this design. A length of around 3.5-metres yet a wheelbase that takes up nearly 2.5-metres of that. Which is why, though a Citigo is no longer than a Fiat 500, it offers far more room inside, space in fact for the four fully-sized adults who could never comfortably fit in the apparently space-efficient Italian car. Both three and five-door models offer the same amount of rear passenger space of a standard impressive in this segment and helped for taller folk by the way it's possible to easily tuck your feet beneath the seat ahead. Equipment-wise, the entry-level 'S' variant doesn't come with very much at all other than the real basics: you even have to pay extra for a spare wheel. You do though, get an MP3-compatible CD stereo with an AUX-in socket, body-coloured bumpers, daytime running lights and a 12V powerpoint.

Thanks in part to a low kerb weight of only around 850kg, even the least efficient entry-level 60PS models will return a combined fuel economy figure of 62.8mpg, with emissions pegged at 108g/km. Figures you can improve to 64.2mpg and 103g/km by opting for the efficient ASG automatic gearbox, at just 30kgs in weight, one of the lightest auto gearboxes ever made. Those looking for better economy still in their 1.0-litre 60PS Citigo will be drawn inexorably to the 'GreenTech' model which features low rolling resistance tyres, a battery regeneration system and a stop start system that cuts the engine when you don't need it in traffic or at the lights. As a result, it can return an impressive 68.9mpg on the combined cycle and emit just 96g/km of carbon dioxide.

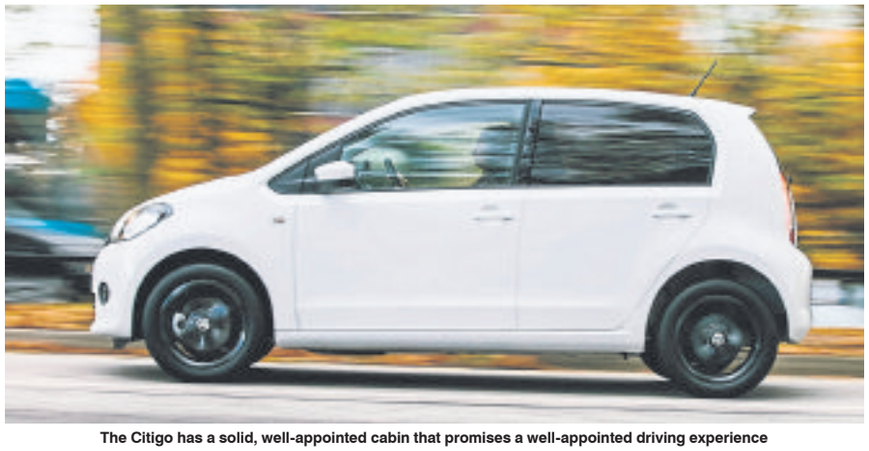
Go for the slightly pokier 75PS variant and there's hardly any penalty at the pumps.

Unlike SEAT and Volkswagen, Škoda includes its efficiency package (with start/stop etc as standard with this engine, so the returns achieved – 67.3mpg on the combined cycle and 98g/km £8,275– are substantially better than the 75PS SEAT Mii or Volkswagen up! models you'd get for the same or more money. Whether you opt for your Citigo with 60 or 75PS, the benefits of the efficiency package are important given that they take this car below the 100g/km barrier, making it completely free from congestion charges.

Styling looks quite smart on the Citigo

There is enough space in the rear for two adults

ŠKODA CITIGO, FROM £8,275



The Citigo has a solid, well-appointed cabin that promises a well-appointed driving experience

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Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, November 17, 2016

Fresh, bold and colourful new C3

By James Parker

The new Citroën C3 – a fresh, bold and colourful B-segment, 5-door supermini that delivers new levels of advanced comfort and personality to the sector.

Citroën is renewing its best-selling C3 model, which has already sold more than 3.6 million examples since it was originally launched in 2002.

New Citroën C3 is set to shake-up the market with its highly customisable character and the very latest automotive technologies, including a world premiere for ConnectedCAM Citroën™, an on-board HD camera that allows drivers to share their road-trip photos and videos directly with friends and family.

The car has a bold and fun-loving personality

Modern

The C3 is everything you would expect a modern Citroën to be – colourful, stylish, brimming with new technologies, supremely comfortable and with a bold, fun-loving personality.

It combines a characteristically Citroën front-end, with soft lines, flowing curves and striking colour schemes to deliver a powerful and energetic look.

Highly customisable, new C3 is audacious and full of personality by design, to ensure each owner can create a bespoke look that suits their individual style.

The exterior has a two-tone paint option, with a choice of three roof colours and complimentary touches of colour around the car (fog lights, door mirrors, rear quarter panels and on the Airbump® panels). Inside, customers have a choice of four different interiors that all deliver a spacious, yet intimate feel, thanks to the shape of the seats and an uncluttered dashboard.

The car is focused on the well-being of everyone on-board.

The Citroën Advanced Comfort® programme has influenced the creation of new C3. Comfortable seats, a panoramic glass sunroof that fills the cabin with light, colours and fabrics inspired by travel and home interior design, a 7-inch touchscreen that groups together all of the key vehicle functions and a keyless entry and start system, all combine to emphasise a feeling of reassurance, comfort and calm.

The car introduces ConnectedCAM Citroën™, which is a world premiere for the brand.

ConnectedCAM Citroën™ uses a fully integrated camera, located behind the rear view mirror, to capture images and video that can instantly be shared on social media channels, or saved as evidence in the event of an accident.

Options

The new Citroën C3 now offers even more options that improve the driving experience, with an advanced driver assistance system including voice controlled 3D navigation, a reversing camera, lane departure warning and blind-spot monitoring. Finally, the efficient, high-performance powertrain options continue the technological theme with PureTech petrol and BlueHDi Diesel engines, and the latest generation EAT6 fully automatic gearbox available as part of the range.

Citroën CEO, Linda Jackson, said: "The new C3 has all the Citroën values and all the qualities to give the brand new impetus, which is especially important as the previous model accounted for almost one in five sales in Europe.

"A comfortable car with real personality, it is set to appeal to new customers looking for a modern car with character." Xavier Peugeot, Citroën product pirector, added: "With its unique body style, personalised features and connectivity, New C3 is a bold, fresh, modern car. It illustrates the ongoing Citroën product offensive."

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07771 727119

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

CALL IAN. Man with a large van. No job too small, no distance too far. 07973 628534, 01902 891535.

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN. Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852.

HOME TO HOME REMOVALS
Home to Home Removals
Fast Free Quote
Full/Part House Removals
01384 660620 / 01902 581068

KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS AND HOUSE CLEARANCES
We move anything.
Professional service,
45 years' experience,
DFS approved and we take the stress away.
Please call:
07966 281957

STOURBRIDGE REMOVALS reliable, economical, free quote (07802) 876876

roofing

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

SEMI RETIRED ROOFER
Ridge Tiles Rebedded, flat roofing, no job to small
40 years experience.
Keith: 07546 158165

skip hire

BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH! No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR, Est 35 years, 01384 232359.

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS
All neutered, innoculated and microchipped.
Call 01922 412212 or
www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk
RGT Wolverhampton
@RGTWolves

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

LUCY Affectionate, 12 year old neutered cat looking for new home, suit retired persons or someone living alone. 0784 7360784.

TWO JACK russell cross Yorkie pups, 1 dog, 1 bitch, 9 weeks old, £150. 07402 663973.

YOUNG ZEBRA FINCHES available.
01384 273281 Wall Heath area.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

6 Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

HOUSE, Lanesfield, 2-bed, CH, DG, large garden, £495 pcm. Deposit. 07871 921934, after 7pm.

WILLENHALL, luxury room, furnished, working person, £50p/w. Telephone 07401 089298.

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

properties wanted

Need to sell your home fast?
We can help you make a fresh start
With solutions to suit ...
you can clear your debts and make a fresh start
Purchase Agreed Within 7 DAYS
ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED
COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT
FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS
FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE
LOCAL COMPANY
MARION | PROPERTY SOLUTIONS
WHY NOT CALL US TODAY
for an informal, friendly and confidential chat?
01384 930 978
*Terms and Conditions apply
OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

Home Cash Buyer
Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££
Houses / Land Required
Ring Paul 24/7 Local 07870 341 089
Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154
Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049
Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

ClassifiedAds BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

BCH BLACK COUNTRY HOMES
CLASSIFIEDS HELPED ME...
We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles for over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with the regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates.
Black Country Homes
FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL
01902 319 191
Brought to you by Express & Star

properties wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME!

BLACK COUNTRY HOMES

Sell your HOUSE - SIMPLE

You agree the price, we buy the house.

- NO AGENTS FEES
- COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- FREE SOLICITORS
- ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

30 yrs

0800 999 999 6

or 01384 226086 24/7 www.black-countryhomes.co.uk

CASH NOW wolverhampton properties

FOR YOUR HOUSE
- Legal Fees Paid
- No Fees
- Any Condition
- Guaranteed Offer
- Repossessions Stopped

We can buy your house in 2 days

0800 389 6788

01902 628047 Lines open 24 hours a day 7 days a week subject to terms

A LOCAL BUYER pays full market value and more for your property. Call Rick 07729 297901

7 Jobs

employment wanted

RETIRED TIME SERVED CARPENTER / JOINER
Requires casual / part time work.
Own van / tools.
Telephone 01384 375672 or 07527 360303.

drivers

WOODSTONES COACHES require Full Time PCV Driver. We are a family run business operating modern coaches. This is a permanent position. Applicant must have PCV licence, Driver CPC Qualification and DBS (CRB) to Enhanced level. Call 01562 823073.

full time - general

BRIDGES LOTTERY FUNDED

New Year, New You!

Are you unemployed and 25 or over?

Want to become self-employed in 2017 but not sure how?

Call Amanda at Access to Business today for free advice, support and workshops on 01902 572 397
Email: Amanda@access2business.co.uk

This project is supported by The European Social Fund and the Big Lottery Fund

Express & Star

BE A LOCAL **STAR**

Sales Relationship Merchandiser

Do you have an eye for detail, are you self - motivated, enthusiastic and are able to communicate effectively and with confidence.

The Express and Star are looking for a sales relationship merchandiser to join our team helping to grow audience, strengthen the relationship with retailers, readers and ensure the brand experience is positive.

Working within a busy customer focused environment, the successful applicant will work as part of a team, in designated territories, you will be required to ensure that all our titles are available, in key strategic positions to maximise response and exposure.

Previous sales or merchandising experience in the FMCG market is desirable, but not essential. The ability to react quickly and positively to a wide variety of situations is required. A professional attitude must be displayed at all times. You must have a full current driving licence, transport will be provided.

In return we offer full training and support, an annual salary of £8,360, 25 days holiday per year and enrolment into the company pension scheme.

The position is 20 hours per week worked across 5 days between Monday-Saturday, weekends and Bank Holiday working will be required on a rota basis.

if you would like to be considered for this role please send your cv and covering letter to:
HR Department Midland News Association, Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES
or by e-mail to: **hr@mnamedia.co.uk**

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

FIAT PUNTO EVO 1.4 ACTIVE
2010, MoT April 2017, e/w, e/m, Bluetooth, CD player.
£2,150 ono.
07538 750391.

FORD FIESTA
2014, 25,750 miles, one owner, immaculate condition, electric windows, A/C, MoT, Stereo and SYNC Bluetooth, CD, full size spare wheel, smoke and pet free.
£6,350
07904 200232

FORD FIESTA ZETEC
2005, 56,000 miles, silver, fully serviced, MoT, air con, heated windscreen, petrol.
£2,000 ono.
07943 388142.

FORD KUGA 2012 2.0 TDCi TITANIUM 4X4 AUTO.
Excellent Condition.
MOT. FSH. Diesel. 5dr.
31,000 miles. Parking sensors.
Alloys. Cruise Control. A/C.
Part Leather interior.
£12,950
01691 791544 / 07980 850051.

MUST BE SEEN

JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.0 DIESEL
Manual, 74,000 miles, 54 plate, immaculate, 54mpg, full cream leather interior, dark blue, MoT.
£2,650 o.n.o.
07948 146611.

LEXUS 450H AUTO HYBRED,
1 private owner, full MoT, all extras, 56 reg,
£3,000 no offers.
Genuine callers only.
07794 450416.

MAZDA 3 2.0 SPORT
55 Reg, 5-dr hatchback, red, black interior, 17ins alloy wheels, AC, radio / CD player EW, EM, MOT'd, SH, lovely car.
£2,450
01384 401209 /
07739 837137.

MAZDA 6 TS2
Petrol, manual, 2007, metallic grey, 70,000 miles,
Just serviced at main dealer.
MoT till June 2017.
Showroom condition.
£2,750.
07557 955398.

MINI COOPER
2005, 72,000 Miles, Electric Blue, JCW Body Kit & 18""JCW Alloy's, Chilli Pack, MOT Aug 2017, Cat D, Recent new clutch, Panoramic Sunroof, Radio/CD.
£2,750 ono
07885 479560

LUXURY MOTOR

NISSAN MURANO DUAL FUEL 4X4
2005, Top of the range, leather, DVD, sat nav, reverse, cameras, towbar, MoT August 2017, 111,000 miles, some service history.
£2,250.
01902 276966.

NISSAN NOTE 1.6 ACENTA
5 door, lady driver. Economicle, reliable, 100,000 miles.
£1,495.
01902 747180.
07774 898966.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4
2006, 27,650 miles, metallic blue, electric windows, air con, alarm, MoT, one owner, alloys, stereo, excellent condition (only paint defect to rear panel)
£2,900 ono
07974 398260

RENAULT CLIO EXTREME 2009, 26,300 Miles, silver, 1149cc 2 door very good condition, full MoT, low insurance. £2,399 07879 403302

RENAULT MEGANE CONVERTIBLE
2006, 92931 Miles, Metallic Grey, lady owner, very good condition, abs, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, Alloys, CD, leather
£1,600
07957480534

TOYOTA YARIS 2008, 69,000 miles, Grey, abs, electric windows, air bag, air con, long MoT, central locking, CD.£2,500 07939 238409.

TRIUMPH GT6
1971 Project. Genuine garage find, stored since 1989. Non runner, very little corrosion, 40,000 miles recorded.
Sensible offers please.
07853 456878.

BARGAIN

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi
3dr, 56 reg, new shape, silver, 85,000 miles, service history, drives very nice.
£1,750.
01902 650894 or 07804 780221.

VAUXHALL INSIGNIA
2012, 88,000 miles, silver, SRi, 2 litre, 12 plate, 9 months MoT, auto, very economical, cruise/traction control, good spec. Value at
£6,995.
01902 895481.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE
2003. 3 door.
62,000 miles.
12 months MoT.
E/W. PAS. City Drive.
Very clean in and out.
Great runner.
£750.
07525 536767.

FIAT PUNTO Sport, 1.2, 03 reg, MoT July 2017, 52,000 miles, electric windows, good condition. £550 ono. 07956 615584.

GOOD RUNNER

FORD FIESTA 1.3 GHIA
P reg, MoT June 2017, CL, EW, radio cassette player
Good conditon.
£400.
07905 369663.

FORD FIESTA ZETEC
2003, 47,000 Miles, silver, MoT, New Clutch, 5 door, Must be seen to appreciate.
£750 ono
07768261696

FORD FOCUS 2001, black, 4dr, 1.8, 10 months MoT, FSH, EW, CL, alloys, £399. 07930 374986.

FORD KA 1.2 STYLE
05 Reg., MoT April 2017, 87,000 miles, service history bills £700, four owners.
£450.
07730 496811.

BARGAIN

FORD KA 1.3CC
Red, V Reg., one owner for last 15 years, 82,000 miles, good runner and reliable, 2 keys, service record and repairs receipts, new clutch 10,000 milesa go, needs floor/sill welding.
£195 o.n.o.
01902 742896
or
07947 730149

BARGAIN

JAGUAR X-TYPE
Grey. 2004. Full MoT. 65,000 miles. Petrol. Automatic.
£1,100 ono.
Telephone 07973 282911 or 01902 688615.

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY

PEUGEOT 207 1.4S
Grey. 2006.
12 months MoT.
Service History.
New brake pads. New Rad.
New tyres all round.
Last serviced at 64,000 miles.
A/C. CD player.
66,000 genuine miles.
£935 ono.
07581 113618.

RENAULT CLIO
2000, 101,000 miles, blue, abs, electric windows, air bag, alarm, MoT, central locking, pas, sunroof, stereo, MTV edition.
£450 ono.
07581 629541.

MUST BE SEEN

ROVER 45
Good condition, only 67,000 miles, 8 months MoT, Rover alloys.
£450 ono.
07746 798495.

TOYOTA YARIS 1.0
2006, 3Dr, silver,
good condition, 66,000 miles.
£900. o.n.o.
01902 471955
or
07905 986682

IMMACULATE

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi.
2000,
3-dr Hatchback,
76k.
One lady owner from new.
12 months MoT.
Black.
Immaculate.
£650.
Genuine callers only please.
07850 330251.

LOW MILEAGE

VAUXHALL CORSA
3dr, 2002, 41,560 miles, silver, MoT November 25, 2017, very clean car, good runner.
First to see will buy.
SOLD

driving tuition

Homer's
10 Hours £125! Four Hours £40!
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
ADI/PDI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available for £10
07432 458100 / 01562 870050
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090
01902 580065 www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

classic cars

CLASSIC CAR

V.W. BEETLE
1972. 1200 CC.
Good condition.
White.
Full Mot.
Ex Wedding Car
£4,200 ono.
07929 998180.

CLASSIC CAR

V.W. BEETLE CABRIOLET
1979.
Ex Triple White.
Left hand drive.
Restored to high standard.
Ex Wedding car.
A rare Beetle.
£13,500 ono.
07929 998180.

WANTED, CLASSIC Cars. Private cash buyer.Instant cash settlement. Any age. Any condition. 01630 652993 or 07773 462797.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

A BETTER PRICE
for scrap or damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale.
NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD
Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DY5 3JZ.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars
Used cars wanted for cash
Top prices paid. HP settled.
Buyer could call.
01562 711083 / 07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

spares & accessories

clutches / brakes / gearboxes

A CLUTCH CHANGE MOBILE
For Example:
Citroen C1, C2, C3
Hyundai 110
Toyota Yaris
Clios & Micras
Ring for quotes on others!
30 yrs experience
ALL AREAS COVERED
Call Bob
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07972 169554
anytime

SELLING YOUR CAR?

We have a package to suit every budget.
Packages start from as little as
£21.00 for 6 nights
Plus
6 nights free if you do not sell.

CALL
01902 317878

ClassifiedAds

public & legal notices

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED)
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991
IVERLEY LANE, IVERLEY
DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council, on 17 November 2016, made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of Iverley Lane, Iverley from its junction with A451 Norton Road for a distance of approximately 450 metres to Iverley Hay Farm unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or unless the vehicle requires access to premises on the length of road or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes.

The preferred alternative route for traffic will be signed on site.

The Order will come into operation at 09:30 on 22 November 2016, and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 15:30 on the same day.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the BT pole testing works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road, have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director for Strategy, Governance and Change, 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford. ST16 2DH

Ref: S31452; Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre; Tel: 0300 111 8000 http://roadworks.org

Date: 18 November 2016

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10 Personals

personal

AT MANYANA Gentlemans Club, 5* customer rated-Mon-Fri 10-9pm. Sat-Sun: 10-11pm. 0121 472 7281.

ATTRACTIVE, lonely Female seeking broadminded males within a 20 mile radius. 01902 489181.

FIRST TIME AD GENUINE MALE
Early 60s, (told looks much younger), medium build, 5ft 11ins, young outlook, GSOH, considerate, no ties, WLTM attractive female, mid 50s, for possible lasting relationship. Photo appreciated and returned.
All letters answered.
Please write to Box Number P20610, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE 69
Young outlook, good sense of humour, loves country life would love to meet an attractive Female for possible lasting Relationship.
Kidderminister or Worcester area.
All letters answered.
Box Number P20612 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENT YOUNG 73
Fit, own house, solvent, into antiques, sadly eyesight problem, needs TLC from good looking female, Dudley / surrounding areas.
Box Number P20607 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MR MAGIC
I love you forever and a day. While you're away I hurt so much, hurry back home darling.
All my love forever,
Mrs Magic.
XXXXXX

sports clubs

SEDGLEY WHITE LIONS
Under 14's.
(School year 9)
Last Seasons Bilston League Champions.
Unbeaten in Walsall League this Season.
Require two quality outfield players.
Training Wednesday evenings, Matches Sunday Mornings.
Call Kevin 01902 674246 or 07738 624766.

WITHYMOOR COLTS
Charter Standard Community Status Club.
All Managers minimum FA Level 1 and CRC Checked.
U11's Girls require Outfield Players for existing team, playing in West Mercia League (school year 6).
Please contact Justin
07757 310674.

general

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Choose From a fantastic range!
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-Romans -Curtains
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New range of Chainless Verticals and Night and Day Rollers
Give us a try before you buy!
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Blinds4lessdirect.com

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C ETHERIDGE BUILDING SERVICES
- Extensions
- Alterations
- Roofing
- Landscaping
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07989 738732

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FREE ESTIMATES
Cleanliness Assured
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TELEPHONE FRED FOR A RELIABLE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
Fully insured
Free quotes and advice on:
07904 441412 - DAYTIME
01384 572371 - AFTER 6PM

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Misted Sealed Units?
Black Country Glazing
Contact US for a FREE quote!
Manufacturers & Installers of windows, doors & conservatories
'A' Rated Windows as Standard
10 YEAR GUARANTEE
Please see our customer reviews on either Homepro or Which
"Energy efficient windows that won't cost the earth"
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Est 1987
01384 566100
www.blackcountryglazing.com
certass FENSA

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STOURBRIDGE FENCING & PAVING
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- Tree Cutting
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- Garden Sheds Available
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All electrical work undertaken
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ECA
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Drives • Paths • Patios
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5 Year Guarantee On All Work
Free Quotations and Advice
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Buy Direct from the manufacturer. Est. 1999
Pilkington energikare energy efficient glazing
Reduce heat loss by up to 75%
Also upgrade your existing double glazed units to Pilkington Energikare, it will help to reduce the amount of heat lost through your windows by up to 75%, lock, handles, hinges.
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Mobile: 07887 520599
BSEN1279

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FREE estimate • 15 years experience • Fully insured
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Web:wwwacepavingservices.co.uk
Email:acepavingservices@outlook.com
Cradley Enterprise Centre, Maypole Fields, Halesowen B63 2QB
City & Guilds

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Professional Tree Surgeon
All aspects of tree work undertaken
- CONTRACT TREE CLIMBER
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ALL WASTE REMOVED
NPTC QUALIFIED
07746813358 or 01902 659 692
FOR A FREE QUOTE

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Fencing & Gates
All Garden Work Undertaken
• Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling
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NO JOB TOO SMALL
Manufacturers of all Concrete Products
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Gardening

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Gardening

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*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal
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Building and Roofing Specialists
All types of roofwork
• Gutters • Roof Tiles • Chimney Work
• Repointing • Slates Replaced • uPVC Fascias
• Verges • Ridge Tiles • Complete Roofs
FREE ESTIMATES
CALL TODAY
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Building and Roofing Specialists
All types of roofwork
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CALL TODAY
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Premium Products Expertly Fitted With Full Manufacture Guarantee.
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Roofing

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- Insurance work undertaken
- Est 25 years
- Discounted for OAPs
- Exterior Painting

Home: 01384 872276
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Deborah Williams delivers her speech

Suzy Richards and son Owen pick up their award

Pride as sports stars honoured with awards

SPORTING heroes from across the Black Country have been honoured at a special awards ceremony.

Scores of sports stars and clubs packed into the Showcase Cinema in Dudley for the annual Black Country and Physical Activity Awards.

In total there were eight awards handed out, including the Sports Personality of the Year – hotly contested by an Olympian and two Paralympians.

Gymnast Kristian Thomas, able-bodied cyclist Helen Scott and wheelchair tennis player Jordanne Whiley MBE – the latter two both from Halesowen – were all nominated. In the end it went to Thomas, aged 27, from Wolverhampton, and the guest of honour on the night. It follows a stellar year, which saw him win two silver medals at the European Championships and compete in the Rio Olympics.

Ambassadors

The recently enrolled Wolverhampton University student, who trains in Halesowen but now lives in Wimblebury, Cannock, said: "I really was not expecting this. To be up against them when they're such good ambassadors for the Black Country and sport, it really is an honour. I am very proud to be representing the Black Country."

The night began with speeches and introductions from the host of the awards Active Black Country – the group set up to encourage active lifestyles for residents across the region.

Group chairman Deborah Williams told the audience it was 'great' to be able to 'recognise and celebrate the achievements of so many people and organisations'.

The first gong of the night was the Power of Sport award, set up to recognise those who have used sport to make a difference to others.

Akil Maylor, who established Rise up Yoga in a disused shop on the Heath Town estate in Wolverhampton, took home the award to rapturous applause, beating Wendy Hall.

SPORTING FEATURE

Report by Jack Averty

"It really is an honour. I am very proud to be representing the Black Country." – Olympic gymnast Kristian Thomas

Mr Maylor's win was swiftly followed by the Community Club of the Year award, won by adult running group Stourbridge Mums on the Run.

Emma Barnes, who set the group up five years ago, said: "We were honoured to get the award. We are just a small recreational running group with 94 members including about 30 active on a weekly basis. We run some five times a week."

The loudest cheers of the night came for Suzy Richards and her son Owen as they collected the award for community project of the year after their Run for Joel event.

The event, set up in memory of Suzy's son and Owen's brother Joel who died in last year's Tunisia attacks, attracted some 1,100 runners and raised more than £27,000. Earlier in the day the family was at Worcester University collecting an honorary first degree for Joel.

Suzy said: "Can I thank everybody, every runner who attended, every volunteer and all the local businesses that have helped – and of course Sandwell Leisure Trust? Joel was all about getting off the sofa, running, getting people into sports. He even tried to get me to do a few street runs.

"Last year was horrific for us, the community was ripped apart by it. Joel would have been 21 on August 3 and our aim was to do 21 events but we've smashed it and done 24 already."

Owen, 17, added: "We are really pleased with the win. It shows the support that everyone has given from the community."

One of the most hotly contest awards of the night was for aspiring talent, which saw 19-year-old Darlaston boxer Benjamin Whittaker edge out nordic skier Siobhan Pelow and 400-metre runner Ellis Greatrix.

Already in training for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics with Team GB, Whittaker said: "It is an honour to win this award and hopefully I can become a role model and inspire more people into sport."

Battled

Sally-Ann Chambers, 47, from Cradley Heath, who was originally nominated for unsung hero of the year, lifted the glass trophy for coach of the year. She works at Midrange Netball Club in Tipton.

There were just two nominees in the school of the year category with The Streetly Academy in Walsall taking the honours over Dudley's Milking Bank Primary, with its 30 extra curricular clubs proving a decisive factor.

Headteacher Billie Downie said: "Sport changes lives but there are too many headteachers and schools who do not see the value of sport. Sport is such a positive influence on young people's lives."

Paul Gough beat off Paul Green and Glyn Marston in the unsung hero category. Gough has run Priory Amateur Boxing for some 20 years.

In a pre-recorded message he said: "We are going to do more in the community in the new year and hopefully we will keep benefiting the borough."

The group of winners at the Black Country Sport & Physical Activity Awards at Showcase Cinema

Kristian Thomas with Adam Hughes, Matthew Marson, Billy Downie and Phil Mace of Streetly Academy

Sport

Thomas jumps for joy at sports star of year title

Page 39

Warley too strong in chess clash

HALESOWEN fielded a very strong Worcestershire County Division 2 team on Monday against Stourbridge Chess Club.

Chris Cox won on bottom board with Sam Bradley and Colin Woodall both getting draws against higher graded opponents, but this wasn't enough and Stourbridge lost the match 3-2.

Stourbridge second team played at home against Mercia on Wednesday in Birmingham division 3. Chris Cox, Tony Shaw, Colin Woodall and Jeremy Humphreys all got draws. Performance of the night was Sam Bradley who pushed his higher ranked opponent all the way. Stourbridge lost 4-2.

Thursday's Birmingham division 2 match at Warley Quinborne 'B' was going to be a close battle with both teams missing one of their top boards, but Stourbridge were hopeful given their performance so far this season. On board 2, Dave Scriven played an aggressive line against a Sicilian defence and eventually won after three hours of play. Greg Dyett also won on board 1 and reserve Chris Cox did well to draw on board 6. The other three Stourbridge players all lost so Warley Quinborne won the match 3½-2½.

Overall this was a disappointing result and next week Stourbridge have to return to play the same team again in the Homer Plate.

Anyone who is interested in joining Stourbridge chess club should contact Dave Scriven on (01384) 423642 or visit www.stourbridgechess.f9.co.uk for more information about the club.

Yeltz show Blyth spirit but fight back ends in defeat

Blyth Spartans 4 Halesowen 3

BATTLING Halesowen Town went out of the FA Trophy despite coming back from two down.

The Yeltz took the game to their high-flying opponents after the break when they were two behind against a team who had already beaten them 5-0 at The Grove.

Nathan Buddle and Daniel Maguire had netted for the hosts in the first half but Jay Denny got the Yeltz back in it from 25 yards. Substitute Ethan Delaney turned the game on its head with two fine goals. But Matty Pattison levelled for Blyth and then grabbed a dramatic winner.

Blyth had applied the early pressure but Halesowen almost took the lead on 18 minutes when Buddle overhit a back pass to the Blyth keeper but it just went wide of the goal.

Buddle put Blyth ahead on 29 minutes when he headed a cross into the top corner of the net past Daniel Platt.

With six minutes of the first half to go, Spartans made the most of the advantage of a foul on Damen Mullen to double their advantage.

Asa Charlton had a goal ruled out for offside for Halesowen on half time. After staging their fightback, the visitors could have nicked the tie on 86 minutes when Lee Chilton blasted over just yards from goal.

Rugby players keep it in the family

Alfie and Zac Jeavons-Fellows with father Dickie

IDENTICAL twins Alfie and Zac Jeavons-Fellows have grown up playing rugby together.

But the two brothers, who are on the books at Stourbridge RFC, never believed they would one day line up in the same team as their father Dickie – until the launch of a 'Return to Rugby' campaign. The initiative encourages former players to dust off their boots and get back on the pitch.

The scheme has been backed in full by Stourbridge, with chairman Robin Edwards also opting to get his knees dirty once again.

"Return to Rugby is a promotion by the RFU to get more people playing the game," Edwards said. "It is primarily focused on youngsters aged 18 to 24 who go off to university and college and then stop playing the game as they enter adulthood.

"But it has also been set up to encourage older players back into the game. We hold sessions twice a week, on a Monday and Wednesday, that are specifically designed to encourage people to take part. So far we've attracted around 30 new members and we're keen to grow."

Dickie Jeavons-Fellows, a former chairman at Stourbridge, who last played eight years ago, was convinced to put on his boots again. "I didn't require too much encouragement when the Return to Rugby sessions started," he said.

GLASSBOYS ON GLORY TRAIL

Stourbridge 3 Whitehawk 0

STOURBRIDGE and FA Cup glory might have made familiar bedfellows in recent years but even by the recent standards of Gary Hackett's team, this was a special night.

A visit from League One Northampton Town on December 4 is what the Glassboys deserve, after a sensational performance to knock out Whitehawk.

Luke Benbow's second-half brace, after Chris Lait had fired the hosts in front, sent Stour sailing into the second round for the sixth time in four years in front of a boisterous and ultimately jubilant 1,993-strong crowd.

Of all those excellent cup runs, this has been arguably been the toughest, with Hackett's team battling through five straight away games before Monday night's first round replay.

Brighton-based Whitehawk, who play one level above Stour in National League South, arrived at Amblecote still smarting from the perceived injustice of Javier Favarel's "winner" – which came moments after the referee blew for full-time – in the first meeting nine games ago.

Fresh

On Monday the visitors could have no complaints. Stourbridge, driven on by the marvellous Lait, were simply too strong as they recorded yet another win against higher-ranked opposition.

Hackett made nine changes to the team which drew 2-2 at Spennymoor on Saturday, explained by the manager's desire to keep his regular starting XI as fresh as possible.

Whitehawk were without Ross Flitney, the keeper having been sent-off at the end of the first game for his protests. Youngster Munoz replaced him between the sticks and was called into action early. The Spanish keeper was alert to punch the loose ball clear after Lait had failed to make clean contact with Dan Scarr's flick-on.

Moments later, it was Stour keeper Matt Gould breathing a huge sigh of relief after Danny Mills squandered a glorious chance.

Glassboys earned a creditable draw at high-flying Spennymoor on Saturday thanks to goals from Stuart Pierpoint and Brandon Hague.

Stourbridge celebrate the goal by Chris Lait that put the Glassboys ahead against Whitehawk

Jamie hits the double with second child

TIPTON'S Jamie Hughes was left holding the baby ahead of his Grand Slam of Darts debut in Wolverhampton on Saturday – after his second child arrived.

Hughes was the Black Country player involved when the eight-day tournament began at the Civic Hall.

The only PDC tournament to formally invite players from the BDO takes place for a ninth year with the 10th edition at the Civic until Sunday.

One BDO player will be in all of the eight four-man groups, with Hughes making the cut as he's ranked fourth with the organisation. 'Yozza' began his Group G campaign with a 5-3 defeat to James Wade, and went on to beat Dave Chisnall 5-1 and then was due to face James Wilson.

All this after the 30-year-old's second daughter, Perri Leigh, was born in the early hours of Friday.

Fiancee Jayne Breakspear brought her into the world at Russells Hall Hospital at 4.19am, weighing 6lbs 7oz. Mother and baby are both fine.

Never-say-die Stour grab a consolation

Caldy 14 Stourbridge 9

STOURBRIDGE travelled to the Wirral knowing they would have to negate the threat of National 2 North's most potent set of try-scoring three-quarters. It is to their credit that they largely achieved this – bar one aberration.

Stour found themselves constantly pinned back in their own half as the hosts countered their wayward clearance kicks. The visitors finally broke out and a penalty for a tackle infringement produced the opening score, White landing a goalkick from Caldy's 22.

With Stour still unable to break out of their half the stalemate continued until the half-time whistle.

Caldy seized possession and centre Forbes Edwards ran outside the cover before chipping through, replacement Ben Jones scoring a soft breakaway try.

Centre James Otutaha managed to intercept an offload and the unlikely figure of flanker Nigel Mukarati cleared. but, as the Stour pack again held out, a penalty offence gave Jones an easy three points.

Caldy's next attack produced another penalty, a warning to Stour skipper Ciaran Moore from referee Neil Chivers and an easy three points for Jones. Stour finally managed to exercise some pressure as winger Ash Elvers tackled just short before replacement Chris Scott slotted a penalty for offside.

Stour pressed again but another loose pass produced a length of the pitch kick-chase by Edwards that was only defused by the covering run of centre Joe Heatley. Stef Thorp was sin-binned for obstruction. Stour looked to have burnt their bonus point when penalised for holding on, giving Jones another simple knock-over. But a penalty at the death for holding-on, slotted from 35 metres by Scott, regained the bonus point.

Morris is Heathens' Rider of the Year

ASHLEY MORRIS was crowned Cradley Heathens' Rider of the Year as the club brought the curtain down on their 2016 campaign on Friday night.

Morris, 22, starred for the Motor Market Heathens throughout the campaign following his remarkable return to the club after a two-year absence.

The fans' favourite was given a special award to mark him making over 100 appearances for the Heathens alongside skipper Max Clegg. Morris said: "These trophies wrap up the year nicely."

Bradley Andrews claimed the award for Most Improved Rider after his determined displays over the campaign.

★★★

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